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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الراي"

ty injured in Madrid train collision

RID, Feb. 14 (R)--About 40 people were injured today two metro underground trains collided during the morning hour, the civil governor's office said. Police had earlier said bout 90 people were hurt. Metro workers said the first train topped just round a bend between two stations because of en rail and the second train ran into it at a slow speed. It was nown whether automatic signals had worked. The crash ened on a stretch of track above ground. Commuters walked the trains to the next station while police and ambulances the injured to hospital. The once privately owned Madrid o was put under government control nearly two years ago 233 people were injured in two accidents in four days.

Arab League defers meeting on Gafsa

TUNIS, Feb. 14 (R) -- The Arab League has postponed an emergency meeting on a bitter dispute between Tunisia and neighbouring Libya, league sources said today. The sources said several countries, including Syria and Kuwait, had asked for a postponement of the special session of the league council which had been due to open in Tunis on Saturday. Both Tunisia and Libya called for the conference after 41 people were killed in a guerrilla attack on the Tunisian mining town of Gafsa on Jan. 27. Tunisia has accused Libya of planning the raid, while the Libyans have condemned subsequent French military aid to Tunisia. (See story on page 6) The sources here could not say why the league meeting had been put back or when it might be held, but they said it would not be this month.

ne 5, Number 1284 — AMMAN, FRIDAY FEBRUARY 15, 1980 — RABI'A AL AWAL 29, 1400 — Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Leftists warn of new civil war

ival right-wing factions attle in North Lebanon

RUT, Feb. 14 (R) -- Rival rightist ons battled with mortars and lery in North Lebanon today as a leftist leader warned of a new civil war unless the government found a political settlement of the country's divisions.

-run Beirut Radio continuing fierce clashes ming between Falangist en and supporters of President Suleiman Franaid schools were closed in h because of the fighting entred on the villages of and Deir Bulla. The sound of shelling could be heard clearly from the northern commercial city of Tripoli.

The radio reported that a policeman died today from injuries suffered in fighting yesterday between hostile militia bands, taking the death toll to four in the last two days.

Sniping kept the main highway linking the largely left-wing west side of Beirut and the east closed today. But the capital was otherwise relatively calm after a battle between Lebanese army regulars and Palestinian-leftist forces yesterday in which 10 people were wounded.

Lebanon's left-wing parties today called on the government to find a political solution to the country's present crisis if it wanted to avert new factional fighting similar to the 1975-76 civil war in which 60,000 people died.

The stand by the Lebanese National Movement, which groups several leftist organisations, was outlined at a press conference by Mr. Walid Jumblatt, head of the Progressive Socialist Party.

The movement considered it its duty "to express the views of the majority of the people in calling for averting an explosion, renewed fighting and war," Mr. Jumblatt said.

He said the army, which the left regards as sectarian and controlled by the right, should be rebuilt on a national and just basis.

Declaring that Israel was the real source of danger for Lebanon, he called for an extension of the state's authority over all its territory and urged the government to "confront Israeli occupation of part of the south."

Israeli-backed right-wing militias in South Lebanon control a 10-kilometre belt of territory along the frontier.

President Elias Sarkis conferred today with security and judicial authorities about the kidnapping yesterday of a Falangist Party member of parliament.

The speaker, Mr. Kamel Asaad, told reporters Deputy Edmond Rizk, a former cabinet minister and a member of the Falangist Party politburo, was being held in Zghorta, the northern stronghold of ex-President Franjieh's "Marada" brigades. His abduction raised fears that fighting between the feuding rightist factions could spread to the capital.

Lebanese Premier Salim Al Hoss had talks in Damascus yesterday with Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad about Syria's plans to withdraw an estimated 8,000 peace-keeping troops from the capital.

Today, Dr. Hoss visited President Sarkis to discuss the Syrian troop redeployment and national security.

Dr. Hoss told reporters that the cabinet would draw up a programme aimed at achieving national reconciliation as well as an overall security plan.

The government has told the Lebanese army to prepare to take over Syrian positions in the capital, but deployment of Lebanese regulars is opposed by the left because of suspicions of right-wing bias.

red personnel carriers of the restructured Lebanese army line military base in the mountains near Beirut. The 20,000-strong is to take up positions in some parts of Beirut when the Syrian eeping force withdraws from the Lebanese capital. (AP oto)

egional Briefs

DAD, Feb. 14 (R) -- King Khaled of Saudi Arabia has sed support for Iraq's proposed charter governing interrelations, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported today. gency said support for the eight-point charter was contained essage from the Saudi monarch received yesterday by Iraqi dent Saddam Hussein. The charter, announced by President in last week, renounced the use of force to resolve interdisputes and opposed the presence of foreign troops or ry bases on Arab soil. At least three other Arab states have expressed support for the proposed charter, Jordan, Kuwait Morocco.

AWA, Feb. 14 (R) -- Denmark's embassy in Tehran is handmergency problems involving Canadians in Iran, the exterffairs department said last night. The Danish embassy will le consular and other problems facing Canadian citizens in now that the Canadian embassy has closed, a department esman said. The New Zealand embassy initially took over nsibility for Canadians in Iran, but it also was closed tly. Canada shut down its embassy in Tehran after its dips helped smuggle six Americans out of the country.

UT, Feb. 14 (R) -- Prices in Lebanon have risen by more 150 per cent in the last five years of violence and civil war, ding to statistics released by the country's trade union ment. The Confederation of Labour Unions said that bethe end of the last year of peace in the country, and the end 79, prices rose by 155.1 per cent. The confederation released gures as part of a pay claim. It wants a 41.3 per cent boost to num wages. It has warned that if its demand for a monthly num wage of 900 Lebanese pounds ($240) is not met by l it will call a general strike.

HDAD, Feb. 14 (R) -- Venezuelan President Luis Herrera pins left today for Vienna after a two-day official visit to Iraq, raqi News Agency (INA) said. Iraq was the last stop in dent Herrera Campins' tour of seven Arab states during he held talks on bilateral relations and strengthening the of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries C). The seven states -- Algeria, Libyan Jamahiriyah, ait, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Iraq -- ll OPEC members.

A, Feb. 14 (R) -- Saudi Arabian Information Minister mmad Abdo Yamani said today that his country would allow the establishment of military bases on its territory. Qatar newspaper Al Raya quoted Dr. Yamani as saying that nents made to the contrary in the U.S. were false. "The lom has repeatedly said that it will never allow the establent of military bases because it does not believe in alliances," id. Dr. Yamani said he wanted other countries to stop expre- fears about gulf security. He described the Soviet military vention in Afghanistan as "a horrible crime" and said it was ncern to the Arabs and the Gulf because Afghanistan was a im country and the Soviet Union was now close to Gulf ers.

ICAN CITY, Feb. 14 (R) -- Pope John Paul had a private nce today with Monsignor John Nolan, who last week interd the 49 American hostages being held in Iran. No statewas issued, but Vatican sources said it was clear the hostages een the subject of the audience. Monsignor Nolan, who the pontifical mission for Palestine, accompanied arcop Hilarion Capucci, the former Melchite Catholic bishop of alem, to the occupied U.S. embassy in Tehran. The Pope last forbade Monsignor Capucci to visit Iran in connection with ostages, but the archbishop was apparently acting with Papal val on this occasion.

AVIV, Feb. 14 (AP) -- A light civilian plane crashed into terranean Sea after taking off last night, and its three pasrs were believed lost, civil aviation authorities said today. ary helicopters and navy patrols searched the sea off the Sde airport north of Tel Aviv throughout the night and the ning morning, but no trace of the plane wash found. The a Piper Aztec, was under American registration to an l, and an airport offi said all the passengers were Israeli.

Dr. Charles Kerr, USA, the final torch bearer, holds up the Olympic torch after he lit the Olympic flame during the opening of the Olympic Winter Games at Lake Placid, N.Y., Wednesday. (AP wirephoto)

Prince Hassan condemns Israel's settlement policy

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (Agencies) -- His Highness Crown Prince Hassan today condemned Israeli policy in the occupied Arab territories and accused the Israeli government of planning to turn Jerusalem into a predominantly Jewish city within three years.

The Crown Prince, said Israel's attitude on the occupied West Bank had hardened following the crises in Afghanistan and Iran.

He said Prime Minister Menachem Begin's government had seized the occasion to present itself as a bulwark of western interests in a threatened Middle East, with any criticism of Israeli policies painted as an attempt to undermine the west itself.

Prince Hassan was commenting on the Israeli government's decision earlier this week to allow Jews to settle in the West Bank city of Hebron, a move criticised by Arab countries as well as the United States government.

In an interview with Reuter, the Crown Prince said the decision was in line with plans to turn Jerusalem, Hebron, and other West Bank cities into predominantly Jewish places within three years.

Despite protest against settlement in the occupied Arab territories, Israel today dedicated a new Jewish outpost in the heart of the West Bank.

"Thirty thousand Jews shall live in this area," Israeli Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon told the settlers at Maaleh Shomron, a hilltop site 32 kilometres northeast of Tel Aviv. "We shall build this block of settlements despite all the difficulties," he said.

The ceremony came as Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin rejected Washington's protest of an Israeli decision to move Jews into the centre of Hebron, a fiercely nationalistic Arab town of the West Bank.

In a meeting with Mr. James McIntyre, head of the U.S. house of representatives office of management and budget, Mr. Begin discussed the Israeli decision and claimed Israel had a right to settle the West Bank, the state radio reported.

At the Maaleh Shomron dedication, Mr. Sharon called the U.S. protest "interference with our right to exist. They should not even dream that they have any right to mention this," he said.

After his meeting with Mr. Begin, Mr. McIntyre told reporters the U.S. "does not intend to use its aid as a way to pressure things which should be handled through diplomatic means." He reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to Israel. "The commitment remains firm," he said.

Maaleh Shomron is part of a cluster of Jewish settlements near Nabuls. The outpost was described by officials last June as an expansion of the existing Karnei Shomron settlement, not a new settlement.

In Geneva, the United Nations Human Rights Commission today expressed grave concern that Palestinians had been prevented by force from enjoying their inalienable rights, particularly those of self-determination.

The commission also accepted by majority vote a resolution calling the tri-partite 1978 Camp David accords on an Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement a flagrant violation of the rights of the Palestinian people.

Crown Prince Hassan

Western countries voted against the Arab-sponsored resolution, accepting only one paragraph which affirmed the Palestinians' right to self-determination and to establish an independent, sovereign state.

The resolution also noted with concern that the Camp David accords between Egypt, Israel and the United States had been concluded in September 1978 outside the framework of the U.N.

In Cairo, Egyptian, Israeli and United States negotiators

(Continued on page 2)

Signs of compromise to release hostages

U.S. embassy occupiers attack political opponents

TEHRAN, Feb. 14 (R) -- The spiritual leader of the students occupying the U.S. embassy today launched a vigorous attack on the militants' political opponents amid signs a compromise deal was in the offing to secure the release of their American hostages.

Hojatoleslam Seyyed Mohammad Mousavi Kho'ini said in interviews in the two main pro-clergy newspapers, Islamic Republic and Azadegan, that the students were the victim of a plot to undermine the embassy occupation.

"I think that if the nation does not move fast enough against this plot, the students will be arrested and tried on charges of occupying the nest of spies (U.S. embassy) and taking hostages and will be sentenced for harming the international prestige of Iran," he was quoted as saying.

The clergyman's attack came as statements by President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr published abroad fed speculation the 103-day-old hostage crisis was nearing its close.

President Bani-Sadr said in an interview broadcast in France yesterday that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini had approved a new plan for the students' 49 hostages to be freed.

He said in the television interview that to gain the hostages' release, the U.S. government must:

--Admit its guilt during the period of the Shah's rule in helping subjugate Iran to the United States.

--Permit the Iranians to pursue the Shah, his family and entourage for their crimes and thefts against the Iranian people.

--Agree to stay out of internal Iranian affairs in the future.

"That is all that is necessary", Mr. Bani-Sadr said.

Asked if this meant the extradition of the Shah was no longer a condition for the release of the hostages, he said: "We will always pursue him but I don't want to link these two problems".

Irish intermediary Sean MacBride said today he believed that the United States and Iran had agreed on a plan to free the American hostages in Tehran "before or concurrently" with the opening of a U.N.-sponsored inquiry into the former Shah's rule.

Speaking by telephone from his Dublin home, Mr. MacBride said this was "my conviction" based on his role as an intermediary and the latest statements from presidents Carter and Bani-Sadr.

"I say this on the basis of negotiations over the last couple of months and statements in the last two days," he added.

Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat left Iran early today after a three-day visit, refusing to say if he had been involved in negotiations for the hostages' release.

A PLO spokesman, commenting on speculation here over a PLO role in the affair, possibly as interim custodians of the hostages, said yesterday the organisation was not an intermediary in the crisis. The affair was a purely Iranian matter, he said.

In Rome, Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh told a press conference he had been in contact with U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim last night and was told the commission could be formed within the next two days.

Mr. Qotbzadeh arrived in Rome earlier today for talks with the Italian government as part of Iran's effort to normalise relations with Western Europe.

"As soon as the commission's work takes shape and place, the question of the hostages can be resolved accordingly," he said.

He said the formation of the special U.N. commission had been discussed and agreed in principle during a recent visit to Iran by Dr. Waldheim. "Let us form the commission first and give it a chance to go forward and see what results it will achieve," he added. "But the commission must be formed before the hostages are released."

Mr. Qotbzadeh said that only coolness, diplomacy and statemanship on the part of the United States could help resolve the hostage issue.

The Iranian foreign minister said that students involved in the occupation of the U.S. embassy would not block any attempts to resolve the problem. He also said that Iran was in contact with Panama about the extradition of the deposed Shah who took refuge there after receiving medical treatment in the United States.

The 79-year-old revolutionary leader has yet to pronounce publicly on the issue and a spokesman at the Tehran heart hospital where he is recovering from a heart ailment said today he could not comment on whether President Bani-Sadr's plan had the ayatollah's backing.

The embassy students have said they will only release the Americans if the deposed Shah, now in Panama, is extradited to Iran or if they are directly ordered to do so by Ayatollah Khomeini.

President Bani-Sadr was not available for comment today on the latest moves in the crisis, but a close aide, Mr. Ahmad Salamatian, told Reuters: "I don't think Bani-Sadr is in a hurry to solve this problem at any price. It's a question of reaching a clear-cut solution in which the interests and grievances of Iranians are safeguarded."

Senior political sources said today there was little indication public opinion had swung away significantly from support for the students action.

But Hojatoleslam Kho'ini said today the students were victims of a campaign mounted by those who had tried to lead Ayatollah Khomeini away from his stern anti-American stance, even before the revolution.

The clergyman's statements were the strongest hardline reaction so far to the possibility of a compromise over the hostage issue.

Tomorrow, a three-day congress of revolutionaries from all over Iran, styled the "Congress of the Islamic Revolution," opens at a giant sports stadium in Tehran to work out a platform for next month's parliamentary elections.

Some 3,000 representatives, from workers and students councils, local Islamic societies and regional Bani-Sadr offices will discuss the problems facing the Iranian revolution and draw up what one Bani-Sadr aide called "a prototype of the ideal parliamentary candidate."

Government succeeds in quelling Turkoman rebellion in NE Iran

TEHRAN, Feb. 14 (R) -- The northeast Iranian town of Gonbad Kavus was reported quiet today as government forces appeared to have quelled a week-long rebellion by minority Turkomans.

Revolutionary guards in the town, contacted by telephone from Tehran, said their forces were in control and there was no shooting today. Most of the insurgents had fled, they added. Residents also said the fighting had stopped and shops had been ordered to re-open.

The guards said 50 people had been arrested, most of them Persians. These were apparently leftwing sympathisers of the rebellion which President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr has blamed on marxist Fedayeen guerrillas.

Roving Islamic judge Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, despatched to Gonbad Kavus to investigate the situation, denied rumours that arrested people had been executed and said that so far he had not tried anybody.

He told the official Pars News Agency that big landowners would be expelled from the region and their lands distributed among the poor.

A land dispute has been one of the causes of the unrest in Gonbad Kavus, along with Turkoman demands for more self-rule.

The total casualty toll from the week of fighting was not known. Two days ago at least 32 people were known to have died with over 100 injured, but the real figure was believed to be higher than this.

Tito's condition becomes grave

BELGRADE, Feb. 14 (R) -- President Tito's condition has become very grave despite intensive treatment for weakening of the heart and kidneys, his doctors announced today.

They said in a medical bulletin that the 87-year-old president's condition improved last night after special measures were taken, but was still critical. "Appropriate medical measures are continuing," the bulletin said.

The Yugoslav leader is in hospital in the northern city of Ljubljana where his left leg was amputated on Jan. 20.

The amputation was carried out after the failure of a bypass operation to clear an artery blockage. Gangrene subsequently set in, threatening his life.

Until Sunday, President Tito seemed to be making a spectacular recovery. But then his panel of eight medical professors disclosed he had developed kidney, digestive and heart problems.

Today's bulletin was the most sombre so far, and appeared to be a clear indication that the president's life was in acute danger.

Officials said privately that they believed the president's life was hanging in the balance and it was impossible to make predictions about a recovery.

Yesterday, Yugoslavia's top political officials met senior generals to discuss Yugoslavia's "general combat preparedness."

Although few details were made public, informed sources said the 270,000-man armed forces were on alert and some of the nation's estimated three million reservists were called up.

Since Marshal Tito entered hospital on Jan. 3 because of blood circulation troubles, the running of the country has effectively been taken over by two collective leadership bodies which the president set up to ensure a smooth transition when he died or retired.

The groups are the nine-man state presidency and the 24-member presidency of the ruling Communist Party. Tito is president for life of both party and state.

Officials said the two groups had held a number of meetings to confer on major international and domestic issues, and were functioning smoothly.

Throughout the president's illness, the authorities have adopted a very cool approach, designed to prevent any public panic. Yesterday Prime Minister Veselin Djuranovic left for a three-day official visit to East Germany, and official sources said they knew of no plans for his early return.

This coincided with deep Yugoslav concern over Soviet armed intervention in Afghanistan, which officials fear might be used by Moscow as a precedent for interference in this nation's internal affairs in a post-Tito era.

Marshal Tito, who has ruled Yugoslavia unchallenged for nearly four decades, broke with the Soviet bloc in 1948. Yugoslavia became a leading member of the non-aligned movement and developed its own unique brand of workers' self-management in the economy and politics.

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Vicious circle

MR. WILLY BRANDT'S prestigious Independent Commission on International Development Issues has delivered its long-awaited report spelling out guidelines for a new world economic order.

Stressing the dangers of the present inequitable distribution of wealth between the industrialised countries (the "north") and the developing ones (the "south"), the Brandt Commission report confronts the unenviable task of taking a reality of quite unremitting gloom (poverty, population growth, environmental degradation) and turning it into a hoped-for future of justice and prosperity of all.

The catch, as in all such liberal, semi-utopian schemes, is that too much turns on an element of good will -- among men, among nations, among rival systems and clashing ethics.

The report says that "the world economy is now functioning so badly that it damanges both the immediate and long-run interests of all nations." A South American shanty dweller or a black South African gold miner may agree with that assessment, but a multinational company making a billion dollar profit, or indeed a prosperous Third World businessman, may not quite feel the crunch so dramatically. If one does not have to be religious to perceive that man's inhumanity to man is perhaps the strongest running theme in history, neither does one have to be a Marxist to identify the exploitation of man by man as the villain of this particular piece.

The Brandt Commission has creditably paid more than lip service to the Third World's clamour for economic justice, which must go hand-in-hand with political justice. If the Old World was capable (with a few lingering exceptions) of voluntarily political decolonisation, who is to say that the world cannot likewise be decolonised economically?

But the Brandt panel also addresses itself to emergency measures which it feels must be taken to prevent imminent global economic collapse and chaos. And it makes some telling points, notably on the question of disarmament and development. The report points out, for example, that world military expenditures amount to $450 billion a year, compared with total annual official development aid of $20 billion. It suggests raising the latter to $40 billion just for starters.

But here again, as in the question of commodity pricing, the Third World nations are victims of a system of which they are inextricably an integral part -- their demands for national security create a market for military hardware which is only too readily filled by the arms merchants -- and it is not easy to break out of such a cycle without a full-scale overhaul of the whole system. That, more than mere stopgap remedies, is what the Brandt Commission, and anyone else who is concerned with world economic reform, may ultimately have to contemplate.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: The sprawl of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank has entered a new phase that is linked with three dangerous developments:

-- The decision which the government of Premier Menachem Begin has issued allowing Israeli settlement in the city of Hebron;

-- The occupation authorities' seizure of 1,000 dunums near Ramallah

-- The allocation of 50 million Israeli pounds for settlement purposes.

It is obvious that these measures mean that the Israeli authorities are going to allow the settlements to continue creeping across the land. The current stage of the settlement process is meant to surround the Holy Places by penetrating Hebron and besieging Jerusalem from the north.

It is apparent that what is happening on occupied Arab land is complemented by the "normalisation" of relations between the Egyptian regime and Israel and the negotiations between them concerning the so-called autonomy plan. Thus, the Israeli settlement sprawl seems a chapter in the Camp David process which aims at seizing the land of the Palestinian people to achieve the Israeli plan for Palestinian "autonomy."

AL DUSTOUR: Even the American press, which has been and still is a mouthpiece for the Zionist movement, has started to strip off the mask which covers the fact of Israel by accusing it of exploiting the Camp David accords and the tension between East and West to carry on with changing the legal and demographic conditions in the occupied West Bank. It seems that the time has come to test America's will and its ability to translate its rejection of the Jewish settlement operations in the occupied Arab territories into action.

The U.S. is called upon to take a firm and clear attitude with regard to the settlement issue. This is not too much to ask in order to achieve a comprehensive solution to the Middle East conflict.

Mere statements from the U.S. condemning the settlement policy deceive nobody, since at the same time American financial and military aid is flowing into Israel to finance the Jewish settlement movement in the occupied Arab territories and to support the Israeli assault on the efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the region.

The U.S. has to take a concrete position that corresponds with its condemnation of the crawling Israeli annexation -- that is, if it really meant that it is against the Israeli expansionist policy in the occupied territories.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Art Exhibition

The National Art Gallery is open to visitors on a regular basis. Various art works by Jordanian and Arab artists are on display. The gallery is situated on the Muntazah (King Juan Carlos Park) on Jabal Luweibdeh.

Photo Exhibition

The Jordan Intercontinental Hotel presents an exhibition of photos on the Australian landscape and way of life. The exhibition is in the lobby in front of the Okaz Restaurant.

Concert

The French Cultural Centre presents a concert by the Quator Parrot at 8:00 p.m. The programme includes works by Vivaldi, Bach, Telemann and Loeillet.

Ibrahim delivers message to Assad from Hussein

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA) Minister of State Hassan Ibrahim returned here tonight after a brief visit to Damascus, during which he conveyed a message from His Majesty King Hussein to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

President Assad received Mr. Ibrahim earlier today. The meeting was attended by the Syrian deputy prime minister and Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Farouq Al Shara' and the Jordanian Ambassador to Damascus, Mr. Hussein Hamami.

Mr. Ibrahim told reporters in Damascus that the message dealt with the latest developments in the Arab World, the international situation and bilateral relations. He said he is carrying a message to King Hussein from the Syrian president on his evaluation of the situation in the region, in addition to the Arab and international situations.

Mr. Hassan Ibrahim

W. German delegation due here this evening on fact-finding trip

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JT) -- A West German parliamentary delegation is due here Friday evening for a three-day visit.

The three major parties of the Bundestag (parliament) are represented in the delegation, which includes Mrs. Schuchardt of the Free Democratic (Liberal) Party, Dr. Koehler of the Christian Democratic Union and Mr. Hofman of the Socialist Democratic Party. All three are members of committees in the Bundestag for foreign politics and developmental aid.

Their visit will be a fact-finding mission, according to a source at the West German embassy. While here, they will visit the Royal Scientific Society, the Schneller School and the Jordan Valley. They will also meet with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, Mr. Bahjat Talhouni, Foreign Affairs Minister Marwan Al Qasem and His Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Local News Briefs

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA)--The Civil Defence Department (CDD) was called upon to give **emergency help** in 2,527 cases in the past year, according to a CDD spokesman. He said there were 1,252 fires, 1,043 cases requiring first aid and 232 others involving rescue operations. Most incidents which occurred in the summer were caused by negligence and throwing cigarette ends in parks while winter incidents mostly involved fires caused by home heating systems, the spokesman said. He appealed to the public to take necessary measures to avoid any incident.

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA)--A spokesman for the Public Security Directorate said today that a total of **24 incidents** occurred in Jordan over the past 24 hours, resulting in the death of one child and the injury of 14 other persons. Among these, he said, there were eight road accidents.

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA)--The military governor today endorsed sentences passed by the military court on three merchants for **violating Ministry of Supply regulations.** The merchants were fined JD 65, JD 40 and JD 30 respectively, and will have their stores closed for two weeks.

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA)--Projects for **poultry farms and irrigation schemes** got the lion's share of the loans granted by the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) last year. An ACC spokesman said a total of JD 1,195,115 went for financing poultry farms and JD 1,024,854 for irrigation schemes around the country. The spokesman added that farmers last year expanded their agricultural drip irrigation projects.

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA)--A total of **978 dunums of land were planted with forest trees** during the last month, mostly on Arbor Day, according to a source at the Ministry of Agriculture. It said 500 olive saplings and 132 kgs. of acorns were also planted around the country during the last month.

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA)--The Civil Defence Department (CDD) will on Saturday launch a programme of **inspection of petrol stations** around the country in cooperation with the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company. A CDD spokesman said the campaign is aimed at ensuring that all petrol stations abide by safety regulations. If found violating the regulations a petrol station will have its supplies cut, and its proprietors will be prosecuted.

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA)--**Arab dermatologists** have agreed to establish their own union which will be based in Baghdad, the President of the Jordanian Dermatologists' Association Dr. Mamdouh Al Qutob, announced here today. Speaking upon returning from a meeting held in Damascus, Dr. Qutob said representatives of dermatologists in several Arab states who attended the three-day meeting have worked out a statute for the new union and elected its secretary general, a Syrian, and two deputies from Jordan and Iraq.

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA)-- The President of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society, Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, left for Jeddah today to take part in the **meeting of the executive committee of Arab Red Crescent societies** which starts Saturday. Participants in the five-day meeting will prepare for the annual conference of Red Crescent societies to be held in Khartoum in mid-1980, and will coordinate the Arab societies' position at the conference of the International Committee of the Red Cross to be held in the Philippines in 1981, Dr. Abu Qoura said.

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA)--A joint technical committee representing the Amman Municipality, the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and the Amman Water and Sewerage Authority left for a tour of European countries today to gather information on **thermal power stations fuelled by refuse.** The committee, which is led by JEA's Director of planning, Dr. Ibrahim Badran, will be visiting Switzerland, West Germany, Denmark and Sweden, which own such stations and possess advanced technical expertise in this field.

'Bethlehem faces bankruptcy'--Freij

BETHLEHEM, Feb. 14 (R)--The town where Jesus Christ was born nearly 2,000 years ago would go bankrupt unless urgent financial aid came from the Arab World, Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij said today.

Mr. Freij told Reuters the municipality's monthly deficit stood at nearly $40,000 "We shall go bankrupt very soon unless the Arab states extend funds," he said.

McHenry due here tomorrow

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA) -- U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Donald McHenry is due in Amman on Saturday for a three-day visit to Jordan, according to an official statement released today. It said Mr. McHenry will meet with His Majesty King Hussein and His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, as well as the Prime Minister, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, and other officials for talks on the situation in the Middle East.

Snow falls in South, threat of flooding

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JT) -- The Public Security Directorate today urged people living in low-lying areas to take precautionary measures because of the continuous heavy rain, and snow fell in southern Jordan today.

A spokesman at the Civil Defence Directorate told the Jordan Times that the department was on standby, but so far had received no alerts.

Snow has fallen in Shobak, Wadi Moussa and Ayel, all in southern Jordan, and traffic in this area has become increasingly difficult. Civil Defence has warned motorists to use caution while driving on these roads.

The country is being affected by a depression, centred over Cyprus and associated with a cold front, which will bring more rain, and snow on high mountains, during the next 24 hours.

The rain, a Public Security Directorate spokesman said, is increasing the level of water in streams, which may flow into valleys and other low-lying areas, causing floods.

The Meteorology Department told the Jordan Times this evening that between 8 a.m. yesterday and 8 a.m. today 20 centimetres of rain had fallen at the University of Jordan, 11.4 in Wadi Seer, 7.3 at the Amman airport and 5.5 in Madaba.

The low-pressure zone causing the disturbances is moving slowly eastwards.

A source at the Public Security Directorate announced here today that the Amman-Jerash road is barely passable due to very heavy fog. The source advised motorists to use caution in driving on the road.

Jordan, N. Korea sign radio-TV agreement

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA) -- Jordan and North Korea today signed an agreement on bilateral cooperation on radio and television programming.

The agreement, which implements a cultural agreement signed in 1978, provides for the exchange of radio and television material featuring both countries' achievements in the political, economic, cultural, artistic, scientific, and technological fields and well as the exchange of documentaries, news, feature films and music programmes. The two countries also agreed to hold join. radio and T.V. programmes on the occasion of their respective national days.

The three-year agreement, effective immediately, was signed for Jordan by the Minister of Information, Dr. Sa'id Tal, and for North Korea by its Ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Li Sog Ryong.

Jordan Weekly Calendar

(Week of February 15 - 21)

EXHIBITIONS

CONTINUING: The Jordanian Fine Arts Gallery is open to the public every day except Monday. It contains a collection of works of Jordanian as well as Arab artists, and a collection of works from Pakistan, courtesy of the Pakistani Embassy. The gallery is situated on the Muntazah Park in Jabal Luweibdeh.

* * * The Jordan Intercontinental Hotel, in cooperation with the Australian Embassy, presents an exhibition of photographs depicting the Australian landscape and way of lie. The exhibition is on displaec in the lobby, in front of the Okaz Restaurant.

CONCERTS

FRIDAY, February 15: The French Cultural Centre presents a concert by the Parrot Quartet, one of France's best chamber music ensembles. The programme includes works by Vivaldi, J.S. Bach Telemann and Loeillet. The concert starts at 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, February 18: The British Council presents a piano recital by Richard Deering, who will play works by Tippet, Beethoven, Ravel and Schubert. The recital starts at 8:00 p.m. Free tickets are available at the desk.

FILM

TUESDAY, February 19: The Goethe Institute presents a film by Walter Bockmayer and Rolf Buhrmann entitled "Jane Bleibt Jane" (1977) starring Johanna Koning, Peter Chatel and Karl Bohme3 This film recounts the story of a girl called Jane who makes herself up to look like Tarzan's Jane, and even goes to the extent of furnishing her room to look like a jungle. The film starts at 8:00 p.m., and it is subtitled in English.

LECTURE

TUESDAY, February 19: For archaeology buffs, Dr. Burton MacDonald will talk about the recent survey of the southern bank of Wadi Hasa at the British Council at 6:30 p.m. Over 200 sites were discovered, some with art work and inscriptions.

ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD TRIP

SUNDAY, February 17: The Friends of Archaeology have organised a return trip to Pella (weather permitting), because the original trip ran into bad weather, and new outstanding discoveries have been made since then. The trip starts out from the Dept. of Antiquities Registration Centre at 8:30 a.m.

Australian photos: nature's beauty, urban man

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, Feb. 14 -- An exhibition of recent Australian art photography went on show this evening in the reception area of the Hotel Jordan Intercontinental. The exhibition of more than 50 photographs by nine young photographers marks the first such cultural event in this country to be put on by the Australians since their embassy was set up here last year. To mark the occasion, the Australian ambassador to Jordan resident in Damascus, Mr. Neil Truscott, came over to open the show along with the Minister of Tourism, Dr. Muwaffaq Fawwaz.

Despite the fact that the Ministry of Tourism is helping to sponsor the show, the first such travelling exhibition that the Australians have sent to the Middle East to appear here, the photographs selected have by and large little to do with promoting Australia as a tourist attraction. The visions of the photographers, all highly individual, are far too personal for that.

Of the nine photographers, only three use colour. Although many photographers argue that black and white photography allows for greater depth of expression, the most expressive photos in this exhibition are definitely the colour ones. It is also interesting to note that the three photographers using colour are concerned with expressing the beauty of the Australian natural environment -- the great outdoors that one associates with this country. Those working in black and white are, by contrast, mostly trying to convey a sense of isolation imposed by a soulless modern urbanisation which springs from their European roots.

The photographers working in colour are Mark Lang, John Delacour and Nigel Clarke. Although all three live in big cities, only one -- Mr. Delacour -- has turned to his immediate environment for inspiration. In each of his six pictures, he not only uses the same subject -- Sydney Harbour -- but the same very effective format, in which one half of the picture consists of an area of one colour and texture set in contrast to the distant seascape in the other half of the frame.

Most impressive of these compositions is one of the Sydney Opera House in the distance, whose semi-dome-like formation is contrasted with a shining wall of metal in the foreground. In another composition, the colour and texture of concrete is contrasted with a sandy beach.

Messrs. Land and Clarke, residents of Sydney and Melbourne respectively, travelled to some of the more remote areas of a vast continent to return with some strikingly beautiful shots of diverse landscapes. Mr. Lang, who favours a long rectangular, uniform size of picture has admirably captured the spacious quality of the Australian landscape in such works as "Road to the Olgas, from the top of Ayers Rock," in which a fish-eye lens accenttuates the broad, curving horizon.

Mr. Clarke, who at 28 is the third-youngest exhibitor, has the most mature work on display, a series of superb colour scenes of a rich variety of landscapes. "At Lake Cootapatamba" features a stone whose texture and form, heavily outlined in deep shadow, are contrasted with reflected water in a most strking manner. In another composition, of stand dunes, the contours of the dunes play tricks with the eye, appearing like rock formations.

Of the black and white photographs, two series are also on nature themes, although neither very successful. Glen O'Malley is represented by a series on outdoor work, such as sheep farming and fishing. His pictures, despite the scenes of movement, are somewhat static.

Brian Thompson's tangled tree scenes are, one learns, deliberately lacking in depth to give them an abstract quality.

David Ellis' photographs, with their concentration on man-made environments without human, convey a sense of isolation and disturbing quiet, in which even the natural objects look ill at ease in their own environment.

John Williams' portraits of city dwellers are fleeting glimpses apparently spontaneous, photographed from beneath waist level.

Carol Jerrems' six portraits reveal a fine sensitivity, although lacking in warmth. Her subjects seem to be on their guard against all intruders -- even in "Linda Jessie", which one might present to be a study of mother and child, the woman seems in a world apart from the little girl smiling up at her.

Finally, Gerrit Fokkema continuing on a theme of isolation in urban landscape in which a figure stands alone. Even two girls on their bicycles, under a bright sky, appear to be in a slightly hostile environment.

The exhibition is running for one week.

Hassan condemns Israel

(Continued from page 1)

emerged today from their latest round of talks on autonomy for Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza with their differences as wide as ever.

The head of the Egyptian working group, Mr. Ahmad Ezzat Abdul Latif, told reporters there was still no agreement on the main issues of the status of Arab Jerusalem, the size of the proposed Palestinian council or the powers and responsibilities such a council would enjoy.

But he said the working groups had done more work in their three-day session than at any previous round of talks. "The meetings were earnest and tackled the complicated problems," he said.

The negotiators continue their work in Tel Aviv on Monday in preparation for a meeting of heads of delegations on Feb. 27 in London, Zurich or Vienna.

At another level Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Mr. Donald McHenry, U.S. delegate to the United Nations, also discussed the Palestinian autonomy question in Cairo today.

Mr. McHenry told reporters the talks also dealt with the normalisation of relations between Egypt and Israel as well as Iran and Afghanistan.

On the establishment of Israeli settlements, President Sadat said the Egyptian attitude was known and had been stated previously by Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil.

Dr. Khalil in a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance yesterday said the Israeli decision to allow the building of Jewish settlements in Hebron, was "illegal and detrimental to chances of realising a just Middle East peace."

Mr. McHenry arrived in Cairo yesterday as part of a Middle East tour which has already taken him to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, two of the countries opposed to Egyptian-Israeli peace moves and the autonomy talks.

Mr. McHenry is due to have talks in Lebanon, Jordan, Israel and Tunisia after his visit to Egypt, which ends tomorrow.

Egypt and Israel initialled an air transport agreement today as a further step towards normalising relations under the peace treaty of last year.

The official Middle East News Agency said that the Israeli airline El Al would make its first regular flight between Tel Aviv and Cairo on March 3 and the Egyptian Lotus Travel Company would organise its first flight to Tel Aviv for March 5. Each company will operate two flights a week.

هكذا من الأصل

Meet the minister: In'am Mufti

'I don't believe that social development can be confined'

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series of interviews in which members of the government talk about their jobs and themselves.

Jordan Times: Have you identified priorities within the broad range of activities that fall under "social development"?

n'am Mufti: One of the things we vill concentrate on is the paricipation of different sectors of he community in the formulation and implementation of social development programmes. The articipation factor, the involve-ent of citizens in whatever con-erns their affairs, is one main heme which this ministry will try o promote and develop. We are planning now the programmes through which different groups will be participating. One programme will be the development of local communities, concentrating at first on rural areas, particularly remote areas where a lot of assistance is needed.

Q: When you talk about the development of local communities, do you mean across the board development in fields such as health, education, infrastructure and so on, or is your focus restricted to any specific areas?

A: No, we mean in the broad sense of social development. Here is how I anticipate it will work. First, we will select those rural areas and heavily populated, low-income urban areas where we will start implementing programmes. These re our two priority areas, and hey will be tied into the regionalization and decentralisation emphasis of this government.

The Social Affairs Department has already established teams of workers in nine different areas of he country, and they have all been asked to select for this year wo villages and one urban area in heir sectors. This reflects our ecision to start with immediate tion this year, while formulating longer term five-year plan of tion to correspond to the ational development plan of 981-85. Then, our representatives in the field will select rom those designated areas people who are known to play a leading role in their communities; for nstance, the head teacher of a school, the leader of a youth centre, the person in charge of health activities, leaders of the municipal or rural councils, and so forth, so that we will have access to many different groups in the area. These selected leaders will come to our training centre in 'Allan, where workshops will be offered to local community leaders from ll over the country. We've started organising the 'Allan programmes to offer workshops where community leaders will be trained to act as a team. They will be trained in leadership, teamwork and community development techniques, but most important of all, they will themselves identify their own local priorities and the major needs of their community, and then put together programmes with the assistance of professional advisers at the training centre.

Eventually, they will put together a full plan for the implementation of their programmes. If a little village, for instance, requires some roads, sanitation facilities, water or some other such main service that we must see they get, the drawing up and execution of such programmes will be in the hands of people from that village.

This ministry may be working in a slightly different manner from the normal procedure, because our scope of work covers the areas of responsibility of so many other ministries and departments. We hope to act as a catalyst in many areas, bringing together local community needs with financing from other areas of government and private sources. When we bring together these people who are going to be in charge of different programmes or projects, the role of each sector is going to be defined, and the responsible department will finance that part of the programme. If it's a road, the Public Works Ministry will be called in. If it's water, health services or sanitation, other departments will take charge. Together with these general services, we will see to it that we have a training workshop on the spot in local communities, even in some little villages eventually, most probably using mobile trainers who would go around to offer workshops to train different members of the family in different skills.

The first thing we should stress, in my opinion, is workshops in the proper maintenance of one's own home. Local villagers might be provided with kits, to learn all the little things that could be done to improve the general welfare of their homes. This could be combined with training in cottage industries and other skills that provide families with additional income. There would naturally be a lot of concentration on women in these programmes. Besides the training on skills, they would receive instruction in such fields as health, nutrition, family affairs, child care and such matters, which would later expand to the environment outside the house. The aim is to help rural people to help themselves improve their standard of living, and to have a better income. Another aim is to provide for a better standard of living so that rural people will want to stay in their own villages and homes. If we are going to push for real regionalisation and decentralisation, we have to promote the level and conditions of living and rural areas, so that a person who is educated outside his or her village will not mind going back to live there.

These programmes aim to promote certain attitudes and values that we would like to stress. For instance, I think it is important that we encourage people to work as members of a group, to respect public property, to develop a sense of civic pride.

Behind all this, I am forming small groups, task forces, for specific purposes. In planning, for example, I hope to get highly qualified people from both the public and private sectors to help us develop long-range programmes. We need to get people from all sectors of the community involved. I'm even talking to the Education Ministry about making local community development a part of the regular secondary school programme, so that students would discuss local development matters with their teachers, and then go out for several months and work in the community.

Q: So you're defining social development in its very broadest sense?

A: Yes, and also in an integrated form. I don't believe that social development can be confined to one little area. Otherwise, the work would be scattered, and the results would be meagre. If we aim to go into local communities and help raise the general standard of living, we have to focus on programmes that will have a clear impact and that will quickly reflect on improved living conditions, so the residents themselves will be encouraged and motivated to continue with those programmes. I'm talking to all the people who come to see us, to gauge their reaction to what we plan to do, and it's really most encouraging, especially among the people from the villages. There is a great desire among rural people to be involved in improving their conditions. That's one reason why we want to start with some selected programmes as soon as possible. To do this, we will also identify existing local groups that can take charge of some programmes. A women's voluntary society, for instance, could be responsible for some work. In some places, private groups are already offering self-help programmes. One village has a rug weaving programme, which we think can be expanded quickly to allow more families to increase their income.

Another target that I have is the sector of women. We have a comprehensive plan, or perhaps I wouldn't call it a plan, let's say we have the first paper in which we've outlined the areas in which different groups of women, taking into consideration their cultural background, educational background, geographical distribution and social status, should have programmes extended to them. Along with this will come the organisation of women to mobilise their abilities and potential contributions. We have an idea to organise women's groups throughout the country, starting in rural areas, where women would be easily mobilised to take better care of themselves and their families in their communities. These groups could then form a national union whose main concern would be meeting the needs of rural areas, all of which would of course be linked very closely with local community development programmes. One idea we are thinking of very seriously is to designate a central village that would coordinate programmes in other villages in its area, so that we would have the formation of areas larger than just one village, including such activities as a regional market for food or other goods. This might also spill over into fields such as recreational, educational or cultural activities. I don't believe that you can have one centre in a village serving other villages, such as a central health clinic. When it rains, farmers of one village are not going to walk a good distance to reach the nearby village where the clinic is located. I believe more in smaller units in the little villages, no matter how small the place is, offering basic services. You might have a larger main clinic in a central village where a doctor is available. We'll see. We'll have to work it out. The Health Ministry has its own plan to establish clinics all over the country, so we have to coordinate this with them. I've suggested to the prime minister that we establish a ministerial committee composed of the ministers of education, health, municipal and rural affairs, culture and youth and social development, specifically for the purpose of implementing an integrated programme in social development.

Q: Will you produce a comprehensive social development plan that will be incorporated in the next national five-year plan for social and economic development?

A: Of course, but before we reach that stage we are working on a one-year programme for 1980.

Q: And will your approach be similar to that being applied in the Jordan Valley, where technical developments in farming are being implemented hand in hand with social services?

A: Yes, we want to focus on programmes geared to the needs of the human beings themselves. We have to always ask ourselves: What needs to be done for people who are benefitting from new techniques, new ways of living, modern technology? People who are living in houses that are different from their traditional dwellings? Schools that use new curricula? The women, for example, will need to be trained in new ways of living after they move into homes with facilities they've never had before. When you have to care for an individual's welfare, you have to take into consideration all aspects that will effect his or her life in an integrated programme, and plan in cooperation with the health, education, agriculture and other ministries, but from the perspective of social services. I won't enter into purely agricultural matters, for example, but because farmers are benefitting from new equipment and farming methods and infrastructural services, I have to ask: How is this going to effect the lives of those people? Then we will devise any necessary programmes to meet the needs of any particular situation. That's how I look at it.

Q: What would your ministry's role be in the case of Ma'an and Rashidiyah, where new glass and cement factories are being built in traditional rural areas?

A: One of our responsibilities will be to implement preventive programmes. In Ma'an and Rashidiyah, for example, where new factories will slowly turn rural areas into industrial centres, we will have to help determine what kinds of problems might arise from the transformation of these areas into industrial centres, and therefore to foresee what can be done to minimise or try to prevent the development of social problems that have been experienced in other industrialising areas in the world. So we'll look to see what existing social problems can be tackled, but we'll also look ahead to anticipate social changes and identify programmes that might allow our society to change slowly without any adverse effects. We must see how we can help people adapt and adjust themselves to new situations that will arise in the future.

Along with local community development and women's programmes, the third area of emphasis will be children, especially pre-school age children, or children until the age of six. And the fourth area will focus on the family. I've taken the family as the basic unit of the community, and the approach we've adopted is that by working through the family, by meeting the needs of women, children and the family wage-earners, we can then naturally spread social developments and the improvement of the general welfare into society as a whole.

Q: Will your ministry also be responsible for social welfare programmes such as care of the handicapped?

A: Yes, this work that has been done by the Department of Social Welfare now falls under our ministry, as does the new emphasis on juvenile delinquency. We will be working very much with families in this respect. Here is where you can see our strategy of trying to meet the needs of people today, while looking ahead to try and eliminate the causes of social problems in the future. In the case of juvenile delinquents, for example, if you don't change the environment, you will always have the same problems recurring. That's why we think the family unit as a whole is the most logical focus of our attention. Of course, the Social Development Ministry cannot meet all the requirements for social services by itself. We don't have the money or the personnel, so we expect that a lot of this work will be handled by the private sector.

Q: Through charitable groups and voluntary organisations?

A: We'll back the voluntary organisations very much, especially by helping to see that organisational progress is made and coordination groups are formed to eliminate duplication and make best use of available resources, both financial and human. I'd like to make sure that we are all working within a plan, with the roles of each group defined, so we waste no time, energy or money. There are about 300 voluntary and charitable groups working in the country today, but some of them are not being as effective as they'd like, because of financing problems. We'd like to encourage smaller groups working in the same field to organise themselves into federations that can coordinate their financing and share responsibility for implementing programmes. They could also make better use of their existing know-how and facilities.

Q: Do you see the Social Development Ministry as an executive body that implements and finances programmes, or more of a coordination unit that pulls together the work of other ministries and departments?

A: Both. We will implement some large programmes of our own, while also coordinating the work of other ministries within the context of a social development plan that we formulate with them. We might even devise a programme and have it funded jointly with other ministries, along with contributions from the private sector. I think there is a large potential for private sector participation. People like to see their contributions going to a good cause and having tangible results. We really want to stress on the principle of the participation of the individual in the improvement of his community. We might work with schoolchildren, to get them used to contributing a very small part of their pocket money to finance projects for needy people. We need to instill this feeling from childhood. Some companies already allocate a certain amount of their budget every year for charitable contributions.

Q: Which are tax-exempt?

A: Yes, they are. One of the problems now is that so many groups ask the same companies to contribute their own work, and the companies complain that they are being approached every day by a different group. One idea I have is to organise the different areas of social work, and ask companies to identify which areas they would like to contribute to. When we can establish an identification between individual companies and specific social welfare organisations, they become more involved and more interested. They see where their money is going, and a link is established. The contributors see the results of their contributions, and the social welfare groups spend less time on fund-raising and more time on implementing programmes. I'd like to see all this work done on a more systematic basis, as well as to spread it out throughout the country, instead of concentrating on Amman and Irbid, as is the case now. I'm already compiling a resource list of people who can help us in their own specialisations, to plan and implement programmes. There are many people who have abilities in certain fields and who want to help, but lack the ogranisational framework to become involved.

Q: Do you see the ministry also playing a regional role throughout the Middle East, in such areas as training or research?

A: We sincerely hope that we will be able to do that, especially through such things as the 'Allan training centre. The last Arab conference on social affairs in Rabat decided that the 1980s will be the decade of social development in the Arab World, and we hope to be able to build up a great deal of coordination with other Arab countries. In the area of women's affairs, for example, we expect to be able to contribute very much, as well as in the area of children's affairs. I'd also like to establish strong links internationally, particularly in the field of technical assistance.

Mrs. In'am Mufti brings to her job extensive formal education and practical experience in social affairs, education, training and human development. Born in Safad, northern Palestine, in 1925, she grew up in a large, busy household with five brothers and four sisters, and from an early age understood the reponsibilities of public service. Her father was a Qadi (judge) of the Shari'a Court as well as the Mufti of the area around Safad.

She completed her secondary schooling at the Jerusalem Women's Teacher Training College in 1945, and followed it up the next year with a teacher's diploma.

The 1948 war saw her move to Damascus, where she married Mr. Adnan Al Mufti in 1950. From there, they went to Britain, where she continued here studies in London and at St. Mary's College in Wales, obtaining a diploma in 1951 in pre-school and kindergarten education.

She then went to the American University of Cairo and completed a BA in education in three years, after which she came to Amman to work for four years with the national radio service, producing a daily half-hour show focussed on the education and training of women.

In 1960, she returned to Palestine to work with UNRWA's education services in Nablus, moving to Ramallah in 1961 to set up and run the Vocational and Teacher's Training School for girls. She held that position for 15 years, while her husband advanced in his career in the Jordanian armed forces.

In1975, she returned to Amman as head of the Na'ur UNRWA teacher training and vocational training centre for boys and girls. In 1977, she entered government service and established the Women's Department in the Ministry of Labour, and two years later was appointed as one of three women on the National Consultative Council.

Her husband, now retired from the armed forces, is General Manager and a member of the board of the JETT bus company in Amman. They have two sons, Yazan and Yazeed, working in Amman in electronics and commercial banking respectively. Among other hobbies, Mrs. Mufti enjoys a brisk game of tennis, and can be seen out on the tennis courts at 7 a.m. on cool summer mornings.

Mrs. In'am Mufti

U.S. church council debates Mideast, plans fact-finding trip

VASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (Speal) -- A "blue ribbon" inter-faith nel created by the National uncil of Churches (NCC), the rgest Christian ecumenical ganisation in the United States, pened public hearings in 'ashington on Feb. 13 with a ew to updating its Middle East olicy position.

The panel, chaired by the Rev. racey K. Jones Jr., general sectary of the United Methodist oard of Global Ministries, heard stimony in its morning session om three groups--the Israel udy Group, the National Conrence of Christians and Jews and e National Association of Arab mericans.

Two scheduled speakers, Dr. ohammed Abdul Ra'uf, direcr of the Islamic Centre in ashington, and Rev. Joseph owrey, president of the Southern ristian Leadership Conference, l not make it to the meeting. owever, Dr. Abdul Ra'uf sent a ef statement outlining his posn on the five concerns of the ncil--the right of Palestinian abs to national self-termination, security in the ddle East, human rights, Jewish tlements on the Israeli-upied West Bank and religious es.

After it concludes its hearings in shington--another session was l in New York last week--the iority of the 16-man panel will e on Feb. 25 for a two-week -finding trip to the Middle t.

he panel will visit Jordan, uding the West Bank, Leba-, Syria, Egypt and Israel.

he board of governors of the onal Council of Churches, h comprises 32 Protestant Orthodox denominations a membership of about 14 on, is expected in November opt a new policy statement on Middle East which will be l on the findings of this panel another policy review come.

. Abdul Ra'uf endorsed the tinian people's "inalienable right to self-determination, including the right to set up their sovereign nation" and said that security in the Middle East "is dependent on the recognition and granting of full rights to the Palestinians."

He went on to condemn as both "illegal and immoral" the establishment of Jewish settlements in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, saying the "setting up (of) such settlements poses a threat to peace in the area."

Muslim shrines in Jerusalem and Hebron, he added, must be "fully respected."

Dr. Walter Harrelson of the Israel Study Group (ISG) declared that the five issues identified by the NCC panel "are put in such a way as to prejudice the hearings and the data gatherings." He said he was astonished to see nothing in the focus of the hearings "about the right of Israel to exist."

He added that the NCC, by asking whether the United States should recognise the Palestine Liberation Organisation as "the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people" is inviting the charge of "bias or naivete." He went on to say that the creation of a separate Palestine state in the West Bank will be "a major threat to the security of Israel."

Dr. Harrelson, who teaches at Vanderbilt University, expressed the fear that the projected NCC policy statement will be "slanted, unbalanced...and pretentious."

Speaking on behalf of the National Conference of Christians and Jews (NCCJ), founded in 1927-28, was Dr. Carl Hermann Voss, who maintains a residence in Israel.

He pointed out at the outset that the NCC president, Dr. David Hyatt, a Roman Catholic layman, has throughout interpreted "the Middle East crisis in a manner that could be accurately described as pro-Israel without being anti-Arab."

He also quoted him as saying that a West Bank under the PLO "would be the equivalent of a Soviet-dominated Cuba directly on Israel's border with no 90-mile buffer zone and no U.S. fleet or air force standing by to stop the PLO from continual incursion."

Dr. Voss said that negotiations with the PLO "cannot be carried on" because, among other things, it "is still bent upon the total destruction of Israel."

At the outset, Dr. Voss, an ordained minister, said he was "disappointed and dismayed by the bias manifested in Protestant churches and among the clergy" over the Arab-Israeli conflict and the "one-sidedness and partisanship reflected in the announcements on this NCC undertaking."

The last speaker of the morning session was Mr. Jean F. Abinader, executive director of the National Association of Arab Americans.

He opened his statement by saying members of the National Council of Churches "have a special role to play in speaking to the moral components of an essentially political issue."

Mr. Abinader emphasised that the Palestinians are "a principal party" to the Middle East conflict, which means, he said, that "they must be an integral part of all efforts to achieve a political resolution of the 30-year-old conflict."

He maintained that "by every informed assessment" the Palestine Liberation Organization "is the representative of the Palestinian people.

Mr. Abinader, an American of Lebanese origin, criticised the "upward arms spiral" in the Middle East which he said "is of principal benefit to the arms merchants and raises the level of mutual terror in the region." He added: "A major concern in the Arab World today is that the superpowers are acting out quarrels that bear no relation to the Middle East but would likely be fought there."

He then called on the NCC "to do whatever it can to bring human rights violations to the surface wherever they occur."

His group, he continued, associates itself with the U.S. government position that Jewish settlements in the West Bank are "illegal and an obstacle to peace." He then drew to the attention of the panel that the Palestinians have no confidence in the current U.S.-sponsored peace process. "Until the terms of reference are broadened," he explained, "it is unlikely that the Palestinians will be persuaded to participate."

Mr. Abinader concluded his remarks by appealing to the NCC "to help Americans understand the two-sided nature of the conflict and to work from that premise to its resolution," an undertaking, he said, which "will constitute a significant contribution to the cause of peace in the region."

A prepared statement submitted by Mr. John E. Buteyn, chairman of the Middle East committee of the Division of Overseas Ministries, said his group's primary role "is to share with, and be supportive of, the concerns of our Christian brothers and sisters in the Middle East."

As far as the committee is concerned, he said, it believes that "the PLO should be a part of negotiations for a peaceful solution to the Middle East concerns, not as the sole voice, but as a voice expressing a major Palestinian view." He added that the committee "does not approve any majority religious state, whether Christian, Jewish or Muslim, which favours members of the religious majority and discriminates against any minority."

Israeli settlements on the West Bank, he said, are in the view of the committee "a violation of international law." He added that "the future of Jerusalem and the holy places should be determined by mutual participation of people of the three monotheistic religions of the Middle East."

He ended the statement by expressing the committee's concern "about the emigration of Christians from the Middle East, due to unsettled conditions in the Middle East, some of which have religious overtones."

TODAY'S WEATHER

A depression centred over Cyprus and associated with a cold front will bring cloudy and rainy weather tonight and tomorrow. Snow is expected in areas over 1,000 metres above sea level. Winds tonight will be southwesterly, changing to northwesterly tomorrow. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with scattered showers. Seas will be rough.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	2	7
Aqaba	13	19
Deserts	3	10
Jordan Valley	8	15

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	293.50/295.50
U.K. sterling	676.50/680.50
West German mark	168.60/169.60
Swiss franc	181.20/182.30
French franc	72.00/72.40
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.30/36.50
Japanese yen (for every 100)	121.30/122.00
Dutch guilder	153.00/153.90
Belgium franc	103.90/104.50
Swedish crown	70.60/71.00

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JT)--A meeting was held today at the Public Security Directorate to discuss the entry of petrol tankers to Amman.

The meeting, chaired by Assistant Public Security Director for Traffic, Brig. Mohammad Ali Al Amin, discussed several proposals and adopted a number of recommendations, including one governing the hours when the tankers can enter the city. No details were relased at the end of the meeting.

A public security source said the recommendations will be forwarded to the concerned authorities for approval. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Ministries of Transport and Industry and Trade, the Governorate of Amman, Amman Municipality, the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company, the director of Amman police and the Civil Defence Department.

The meeting was held after protests from petrol station owners against attempts to enforce a regulation banning the entry of the tankers during daylight hours so as not to interfere with traffic and to reduce the hazard involved. Today's statement said the recommendations adopted would "guarantee the safety of the public."

هكذا من الأصل

Ceremonies, controversy kick off Winter Games

LAKE PLACID, Feb. 14 (R) U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale yesterday formally opened the Winter Olympic Games in a spectacular ceremony in the modernistic Lake Placid High School stadium. Thirteen deafening cannon blasts resounded around the packed stadium and the Olympic flag was carried in and raised by a team of eight Americans.

Two thousand doves were released and dutifully circled the stadium in a flock before dispersing and flying away across the brown Adirondack mountains forming a breathtaking backdrop to the ceremony. A band in traditional Austrian costume from Innsbruck, site of the last Winter Olympics, entered the stadium and handed over the Winter Olympic flag to U.S. officials accompanied by an escort guard dressed in uniforms of the American War of Independence.

The Olympic torch was carried around the stadium by the last of a chain of relay runners who ignited the flame which was elevated mechanically to the top of the 49-foot tower where it will burn for the next two weeks. America's outstanding speed skater Eric Heiden and U.S. team official Terry McDermott took the Olympic oath, pledging to abide by the ideals of international brotherhood which underlie the games.

Hot-air balloons floated across the crowded skies above the stadium and thousands of helium-filled small balloons drifted skyward as a team of skaters performed a dance on the ice rink. The ceremonies ended when another hot-air balloon, decorated to resemble a globe of the world and bearing the flags of all 37 countries taking part in the games, floated very low across the stadium.

There had been fears of possible protests against the Soviet Union, following the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and subsequent moves by the United States to switch the Summer Olympics from Moscow. But the huge Soviet contingent was greeted almost with indifference when it marched into the stadium, with little applause and no boos. By contrast, the stadium erupted into aplause and cheering when the host Americans came into view wearing western constume of hip-length rawhide jackets and white cowboy hats.

There was also a special welcome for the Canadians, who helped smuggle six American diplomats out of Iran last month. Many spectators stood and cheered, and one man was heard to shout: "je vous aime, Canada." Another highlight of the ceremony was provided by three sky-divers who floated into the arena, the first carrying the flag of Greece, the second the Olympic flag, and the third the flag of the United States. Meanwhile, International Olympic Committee (IOC) members awaited President Carter's next move to counter their decision to stage the Olympic Games in Moscow in July despite Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The IOC took a firm decision that the Moscow Games would begin on July 19, and IOC president Lord Killanin said he hoped a majority of the 142 recognised National Olympic Committees (NOC) would take part. He accepted that some national Olympic committees, such as the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), faced pressure from their governments which have discouraged their attendance and may, in some cases, forbid them to go to the Soviet Union.

USOC officials gathered here had an informal meeting yesterday morning to consider future action. The 73 IOC members gathered here for their Winter Games session, were unanimous in supporting the decision that the Afghanistan situation at present did not constitute a violation of the terms under which the Soviet Olympic Committee was granted the games. The IOC session resumed for one hour this morning, but sources said there was no further discussion on the Moscow issue.

The Carter Administration has insisted that it will order action unless the Soviet Union withdraws from Afghanistan by Feb. 20, although the U.S. team officially has until May 24 to accept or decline its formal invitations to the Summer Games. The State Department has named 24 countries which have told the U.S. they will join in a boycott. Among them are Australia, Bahrain, Bermuda, Britain, Canada, Chile, China, Djibouti, Egypt, Fiji, Haiti, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Luxembourg, Pakistan, Malaysia, New Guinea, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Zaire.

In some of these countries, national Olympic Officials have indicated they will try to go to Moscow, unless actually forbidden by their governments.

State Department officials have said about 50 countries will join the boycott, but they feel there may be some backsliding among others following th IOC decision. The Americans want the IOC to keep the issue open, and the Olympic statement urged the Soviet organisers and national Olympic committees "to inform the highest authorities of their government of the circumstances which have created these difficulties for so many NOCs."

Lord Killanin said he would go anywhere to help the Olympic cause and American officials here suggested it might be useful if he went to Moscow to tell President Leonid Brezhnev of the danger to the Olympic spectacle which has been promised to Moscow, unless political conditions permit all countries to attend.

The White House said the U.S. was consulting with other governments on how to hold international games to rival the Olympics. There would be problems in obtaining licences to run such international meetings from the governing bodies of the major sports, most of which have said they will stand by the IOC. Certainly they would not grant permits during the same weeks as the Olympics, and the United States presidential election nominating conventions are scheduled for other likely periods in July and August. Television plans for the conventions would interfere with the kind of widespread publicity and TV revenue which would be needed to make such alternative games a success in financial and propaganda terms.

Jordan to play Syria in soccer

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA) -- The Jordan national football team left for Damascus today for a two-day visit. It will play a match with the Syrian national team tomorrow in the course of playoffs for the finals to be held in Baghdad next month preceding the Moscow Olympic games in July.

JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

Taiwan pull out of Winter Olympics

LAKE PLACID, Feb. 14 (R) -- Taiwan athletes and officials prepared to leave the site of the Winter Olympics for home yesterday as the 37 competing nations paraded their flags at the traditional opening ceremony. The 18 athletes and about 10 officials decided to fly home rather than march under a flag other than the nationalist banner of the Republic of China. The International Olympic Committee (IOC), in voting last month to admit the Peoples Republic of China to membership, ruled that Taiwan must give up its long-established title as the "Republic of China Olympic Association" and the flag of the nationalist government which still claims to rule the mainland territory which has been controlled by the communist government in Peking since 1949.

The Taiwan Olympic officials exhausted their legal battle in the New York appeal court to restore a ruling by a lower court judge that they should be allowed to compete under their chosen banner. Tommy Hsueh, an official of the Taiwan Olympic Committee, told reporters there had been no time to take the case to the United States Supreme Court before the games began. "We feel we must go home if we cannot compete under our own flag. It would be a great humiliation to use any other flag than the one we recognise" said Hsueh, who was captain of the Taiwan yacht team which was turned away from the Montreal Olympic Games four years ago in a similar battle over the Diplomatic status of Taiwan. Hsueh said the athletes planned to fly from Lake Placid to New York city, and then go home via Los Angeles. But he added they would delay their departure until team officials had asked the IOC to excuse their non-participation, to avoid possible sanctions in the future.

The Taiwanese athletes, whose advance party had refused to enter the Olympic village with credentials provided by the Lake Placid organising committee in a format approved by the IOC, had their own national Chinese flag hoisted over the motel. Although their bags were packed, and preparations made for a ceremonial lowering of their flag, the Taiwan group remained at the motel until today. Earlier yesterday in Taipei, Olympic officials accused the United States of injecting politics into the Olympics by opposing Taiwan's fight to use its flag and anthem.

Greece down Turkey in basketball

BURSA, Turkey, Feb. 14 (R) -- Olympiakos Piraeus (Greece) beat Tofas Bursa (Turkey) 91-85 in a Dorac Cup fourth series Group "B" basketball game played here last night.

Pan-Arab committee to discuss sports

AMMAN, Feb. 14 (JNA) -- Minister of Culture and Youth Tah Hikmat left for Tunis today to take part in the meeting of executive committee formed by Arab ministers of youth a sports. During the three day-meeting starting tomorrow, committee will discuss matters connected with the Medit ranean Games to be organised by Morocco in 1986, Mr. Hikm said before departure. The committee is made up of minis from Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Libya and the Uni Arab Emirates.

U.K. football preview

LONDON, Feb. 14 (R) -- **Arsenal**, the holders face a tax Football Association (F.A) Cup match at **Bolton** on Satur when quarter-final places are contested. But though Bolton, c rently propping up the First Division, would surprise fans if knock out their London visitors, the real shock would be if T Division **Bury**, eight kilometres from Bolton, beat **Liverpool**, lead the championship race and hope to combine a league and triumph.

Liverpool were knocked out of the less venerable Fo League Cup by **Nottingham Forest** 2-1 on aggregate two ni ago and Bury must fear that the raction will hit them. Kennedy, the Liverpool left back, confronts his elder bro Keith, who has filled the same role for Bury in more than matches.

Acting Bolton manager Stan Anderson has converted str Alan Gowling into a defender and the Arsenal spearhead, Sunderland and Frank Stapleton, are sure to keep him bus

Third Division **Blackburn** are at home to **Aston Villa**, w move up in the First Division was checked when they lost 3 Arsenal. The other Third Division survivors, **Chester**, face a task at **Ipswich** who have won 12 of their last 15 matches. Ips won the cup in 1978.

Liverpool's neighbours, **Everton**, must be anxious about Second Division visitors from Wales, **Wrexham**. Everton dropped steadily down the First Division table. Wrex moreover count on the help of right back Terry Darracott, spent 12 years at Everton and says: "I don't just know Everton play, I know how the players think." Another re from Everton, Dai Davies, keeps goal for Wrexham.

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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 15, 1980

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to sit back and observe the progress you have made, and to make plans to have even greater progress in the days ahead. You have good opportunity to express your talents.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Analyze your position with friends and know which to retain and which to let go out of your life for best results.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Conditions in the business world may appear strange now, but later can turn to your benefit. Be more self-assured.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Don't rush into a new interest before making a careful study. Take no risks with your reputation at this time.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Come to a better understanding with the one you love. A new contact can bring many benefits your way.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Resolve a problem you have with an associate and cement better relations with this person. Be wary of newcomers.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be sure to finish regular routines before engaging in amusements. An argument with a friend is not serious, so forget it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't try to be forceful with others, or you could regret it later. Don't neglect a worthy friend of long standing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be sure to keep promises made to family members. A new project needs more study before going ahead with it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be more objective in dealing with others and get better results. Use extreme caution in motion and avoid possible accident.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Plan how to save more money instead of spending more than you can afford. Show others you have wisdom.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A time to be calm and serene while going after a personal aim. Be sure to use your money wisely at all times today.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Taking on a martyr complex will gain you nothing at this time. Quietly get things done in a sure and positive manner.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

© 1979 by Chicago Tribune

1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠AQJ75 ♡J10632 ◇K6 ♣7

Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one heart. What action do you take?

A.—Normally, if an opponent opens in your long suit, you would pass and await developments. However, this is not the hand for that course of action. Your second suit is as long and far stronger than your heart suit. Bid one spade. If you do not overcall now, you will be awkwardly placed later, no matter how the auction unfolds.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠Q92 ♡A7 ◇QJ962 ♣872

Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?

A.—You can't respond two diamonds, because that shows a weak hand. However, you aren't strong enough to jump to three diamonds. The choice is between rising to two or three no trump. Since you have a reasonably good five-card suit, which rates to produce four tricks opposite as little as ace or king doubleton in partner's hand, we would choose the more aggressive action.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AK8 ♡AQ7 ◇AK108 ♣KQ6

What is your opening bid?

A.—With 25 high-card points, you are too strong for two no trump—that shows a maximum of 24 points. The correct opening bid is three no trump. Armed with the knowledge that you have a balanced hand of 25-27 points, partner will be perfectly placed to decide the level of the final contract.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠Q93 ♡AK652 ◇764 ♣K8

The bidding has proceeded:

South	West	North	East
♡	2 ◇	2 ♠	Pass
♠	Pass	4 ◇	Pass
♡	Pass	5 ♡	Pass

What action do you take?

A.—There is no denying the fact that you have a minimum opening bid and that you have done nothing, so far, to discourage partner's efforts to get to slam. Nevertheless, there is one key feature of your hand that has not been revealed by the auction—you can guard against the loss of two fast club tricks, a suit which partner obviously cannot control. In six hearts, Partner's spade suit should furnish enough discards to enable you to make slam against any opening lead, assuming normal splits.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable with 60 on score, you hold:

♠KQ83 ♡J105 ◇K9 ♣QJ93

The bidding has proceeded:

North	East	South	West
1 NT	Pass	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ◇	?	

What action do you take?

A.—Resist the temptation to bid three no trump in an effort to close out the rubber, for partner might have made a tactical one no trump opening on shaded values. A far more profitable course is to double. Regardless of the size of penalty you collect, and it could be handsome indeed, you will still be overwhelming favorites to win the rubber on a later hand.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠1094 ♡A6 ◇QJ10 ♣AK986

The bidding has proceeded:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
?			

What action do you take?

A.—North should have a six-card suit for his two-spade rebid—with a balanced hand and five spades, he would have passed one no trump, and with a distributional hand, he would have bid another suit. However, partner's strength cannot be determined. Since you have three quick tricks, fine spade support and a ruffing value, we recommend a raise to three spades in the hope that partner can bid a game

Q.7—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠83 ♡95 ◇AK854 ♣Q632

The bidding has proceeded:

North	East	South
1 ♠	2 ♡	?

What action do you take?

A.—What do you want to do? With two low spades, you cannot support partner's suit. And with only 9 HCP, introducing your diamond suit at the three-level, which would be forcing, risks far more than it could gain. Pass. If partner also passes, the most you will lose is a partscore.

Q.8—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠J764 ♡6 ◇872 ♣KQ763

The bidding has proceeded:

North	East	South	West
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 NT	Pass	?	

What action do you take?

A.—It is a delight to hear that partner has a strong, balanced hand. However, don't let that deter you from doing your duty. Your hand is unbalanced, and better designed for suit play than for no trump. Therefore, correct to four spades. This does not show additional values; it is simply taking a preference.

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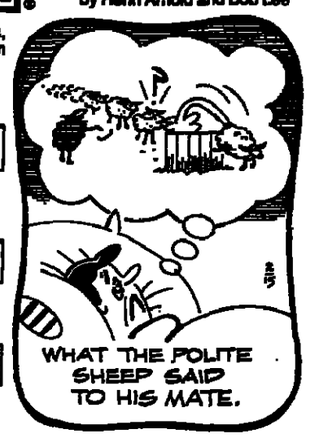

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: ◯◯◯◯◯◯ "◯◯◯"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: KETCH ANISE FACING OFFSET

Answer: How Dr. Frankenstein managed to keep his monster—"IN STITCHES"

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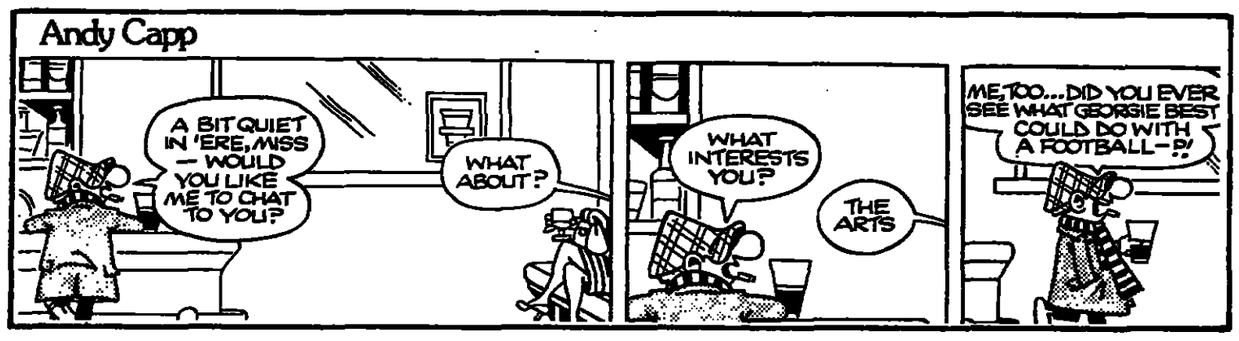
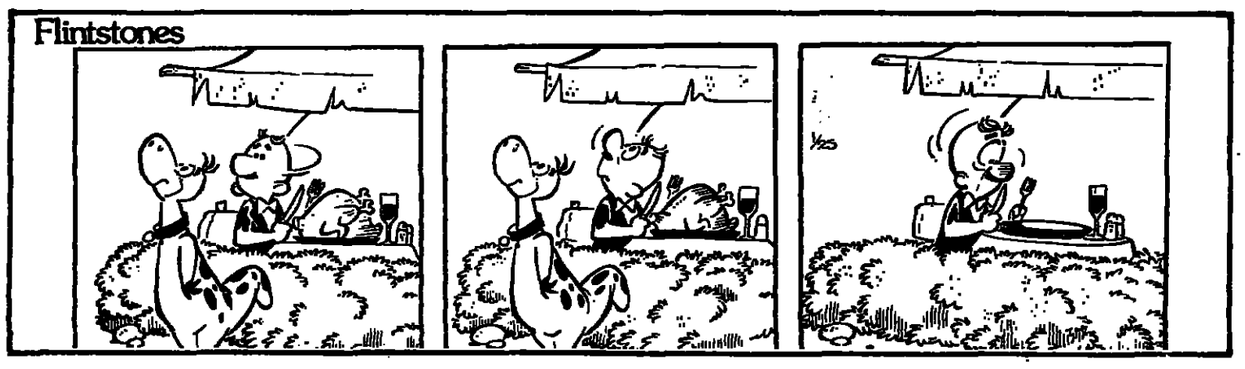


Mutt 'n' Jeff

Flintstones



THE Daily Crossword by William Lawton

ACROSS

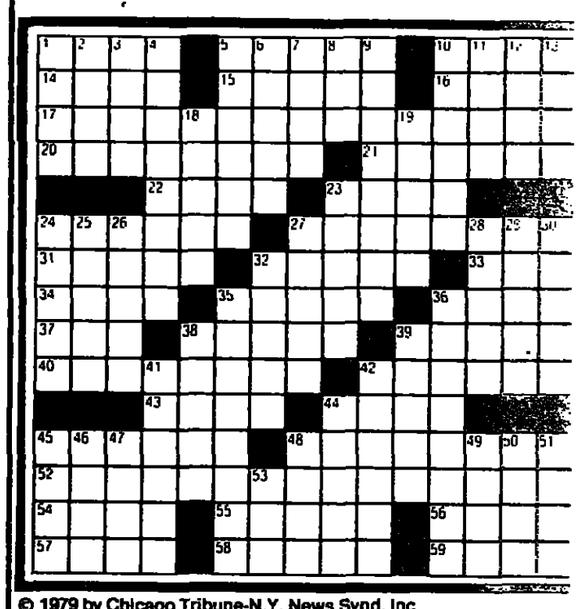
1 Wired package
5 Unspecific
10 Kind of rubber
14 Start of an anthem
15 Pensive poem
16 Trek animals
17 Is relevant
20 GI chow
21 Omissions
22 Certain arch
23 Queue
24 Endorse
27 Realms
31 Fails to include
32 Macadamizes
33 Menagerie
34 The pair
35 Attorney Louis
36 Writer Bellow
37 Midi summer
38 Man from Laredo
39 Intrinsically
40 Hold back
42 Fired
43 Existed
44 Equitable
45 Rivulet
48 Outdoor
52 Nub of the debate
54 Crotchety old man
55 Athletic feat
56 Stone or Pound
57 ABA member: abbr.
58 Unsure
59 Noticed

DOWN

1 Dark beer
2 Hebrew lyre
3 Prayer wheel user
4 Certain canine
5 Said no
6 Without any assistance
7 Acquires
8 Relative of phew
9 Cosmetic
10 Tuckered out
11 WW II powers
12 Descartes
13 Formicary occupants
18 Autographs
19 Sudden pains
23 Perk up
24 Judicial
25 Cut off
26 Monitors for an award
27 Director Elia
28 Southern mountain
29 Shiner
30 Did some cobbling
32 Mischievous one
35 Close call
36 Caches
38 Pick up the tab
39 Poker holdings
41 Score
42 Gridiron two-pointers
44 Fail academically
45 Humane group: abbr.
46 Binge
47 Disorderly profusion
48 Shade of blue
49 S, M or L
50 Apple center
51 — even keel
53 Unspecific degree

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

N	A	D	A		D	O	W	N		W	O	R	D	S
A	N	I	L		A	R	E	A		E	V	E	R	T
S	E	C	T	A	R	I	A	N		S	E	V	E	R
A	T	T	E	S	T	E	R		S	T	R	E	W	S
		I	R	K		N	E	S	T	S				
A	M	O	S		A	T	R	I	A		E	D	G	E
C	A	N		E	N	S		S	N	O	R	E	R	S
I	T	A	L	I	A			N	O	N	F	A	T	
D	E	R	A	N	G	E		C	U	M		I	T	O
S	O	Y	S		R	E	A	R	M		S	N	A	P
			S	A	L	E		D	E	I				
R	E	D	E	E	M		M	A	R	I	E	T	T	A
A	R	O	I	D		P	O	T	E	N	T	I	A	L
M	I	T	R	E		O	N	E	D		H	O	R	A
S	N	E	E	R		E	D	D	O		E	N	T	E



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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

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10:00 Kuwan
10.15 Cartoons
10:30 Children's programme
11:30 Religious programme
12:30 New Land
13:25 Thrillseekers
13:50 Arabic programme
14:20 In Search of
14:30 Soccer
16:10 The Sullivans
17:05 Arabic series
18:00 Gunsmoke
18:45 Religious series
19:20 Religious seminar
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic programme
20:50 Arabic series
22:15 Switch
23:00 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6:

18:30 French programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy
21:10 Our Mutual Friend
22:00 News in English
22.15 Switch

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on
7:01 Morning Show
7:30 News Bulletin
7:40 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Arab Civilisation
11:00 Listeners' Choice
12:00 News Headlines
12:03 Listeners' Choice
13:00 News Summary
13:03 Radiotheque
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Music
14:30 In Concert
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:03 Pedagogical Pop
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 International Top Twenty
18:00 News Summary
18:03 Jordan Weekly
18:30 Invitation to Oriental Foods
19:00 News Bulletin
19:10 Music
19.30 Sign off

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS:

6:30 Jeddah
7:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
7:40 Kuwait, Doha
7:50 Cairo (EA)
9:55 Aqaba
10:00 Beirut
11:30 Baghdad (IA)
12:05 Kuwait (KAC)
12:35 Tripoli, Benghazi (LN)
15:25 Jeddah, Medina (SDI)
16:00 New York
18:00 Paris
18:15 Cairo
18:45 Madrid, Athens
19:00 Cairo
19:15 Rome (AZ)
19:45 Beirut (MEA)
19:55 London, Vienna
21:35 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (LH)
22:15 Damascus
04:[illegible] Cairo

DEPARTURES:

7:30 Beirut
8:00 Aqaba
8:05 Damascus, London (BA)
8:45 Beirut (MEA)
8.55 Cairo (EA)
10:15 Frankfurt
10:30 Athens, Copenhagen
11:00 Amsterdam, New York, Hotuston
12:30 Baghdad (IA)
13:00 Kuwait (KAC)
15:00 Cairo
13:35 Benghazi, Tripoli (LN)
16:25 Medina, Jeddah (SDI)
19.30 Cairo
20:00 Damascus
21:00 Dubai, Karachi (RJGF)
21:30 Kuwait
22:30 Doha, Muscat (RJGF)
23:30 Cairo
02:45 Tehran

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:
Amman:
Abdul Rahman Al Najjar (71780-75050)
Nabich Hinnawi (77622)
Irbid:
Nidhal Haddad (4540)
Zarqa:
Munir Odeh Aqeel (83744/83092)
Pharmacies:
Amman:
Abu Ghazaleh (25260)
Shedi (25655)
Nassar (23791)
Reem
Zarqa:
Al Amal
Tafila:
Habi (42201)
Al Rainbow (37249)
Al Rasheid (22023)
Al Jamamah (61001)

BBC RADIO

GMT
04:00 Newsdesk
04:30 Letter from London; Play Choice
04.45 Financial News; Reflections
05:00 News; 24 Hours
05:30 Singer Songwriter
05:45 World Today
06:00 Newsdesk
06:30 Baker's Half-Dozen
07:00 News; 24 Hours
07:30 Music for the Harpsichord
07:45 Merchant Navy
08:00 News; Reflections
09:00 News; Press Review
09:15 World Today
09:30 Financial News; Look Ahead
09:45 Music Now
10:15 Merchant Navy
10:30 Doctor in the House
11:00 News; News about Britain
11:15 In the Meanime
11:15 Ulster Newsletter
11.30 Anything Goes
12:00 Radio Newsreel
12:15 These Musical Islands
12:45 Sports Round-up
13:00 News; 24 Hours
13:30 Radio Theatre
14:15 Letterbox
14:30 Command Performance
15:00 Radio Newsreel
15:15 Outlook
16:00 News; Commentary
16:15 Theatre Call
16:35 New Ideas
16:45 World Today
17:00 News; The Week in Wales
17:15 Music now
17:45 Sports Round-up
18:00 News; News about Britain
18:15 Radio Newsreel
18:30 Green's Album Time
19:00 Outlook
19:39 Stock Market Report
19:45 About Britain
20:00 News; 24 Hours
20:30 Smash of the Day
21:00 Network U.K.
21:15 Sarah and Company
21:45 Letter from London; Play Choice
22:00 News; World Today
22:25 The Week in Wales
22:30 Financial News; Reflections
22:45 Sports Round-up
23:00 News; Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT
03:30 The Breakfast Show:
06:30 News, pop music, features, listeners, questions.
17:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analyses.
17:30 Dateline
18:00 Special English: news, feature "The Living Earth."
18:30 Country Muse USA
19:00 News Roundup; reports, opinion, analyses.
19:30 VOA Magazine: Americana, science, culture, letters.
20:00 Special English; news
20:15 Music USA (Jazz)
21:00 VOA World Report
22:00 News, Correspondents' reports, background features, media comments, analyses.

CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

American Centre	Tel. 41520
British Council	" 36147-8
French Cultural Centre	" 37004
Goethe Institute	" 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre	" 24039
Haya Arts Centre	" 65195
Hussein Youth City	" 67181
Y.W.C.A.	" 41793
Y.W.M.A.	" 64251
Amman Municipal Library	" 36111
University of Jordan Library	" 65111
Citadel Museum	" 36191
Folklore Museum	" 36191

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 75111
Civil defence rescue	" 24391-4
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	" 36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	" 37111-3
Police headquarters	" 39141
Najdeh roving patrol rescue police (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency	" 21111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA)	" 55205
Jordan Television	" 73111
Radio, English Section	" 74124
First aid, fire, police	" 19
Fire headquarters	" 22090

CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)

Al Hamra Theatre	Tel. 226-448
Al Sha'b Art Gallery	" 228-527
American Centre	" 552-362
Arab Cultural Centre	" 333-727
Bulgarian Cultural Centre	" 557-901
British Cultural Centre	" 333-594
Deutsch Democratic Republic Cultural Centre	" 333-932
French Cultural Centre	" 330-694
Kabbani Theatre	" 222-016
National Museum	" 114-854
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 225-650
Spanish Cultural Centre	" 334-003
Umina Art Gallery	" 334-619
Zahariya Public Library	" 111-318
West German Cultural Institute	" 224-954

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 90
Chamber of Commerce	" 118-339
Electric Power Co. (repair)	" 223-887
Fire headquarters	" 91
Information	" 96/97
Municipal water service	" 113-500

In exchange for release of hostages

Carter backs inquiry into U.S., Shah acts in Iran

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (Agencies) -- President Carter has given qualified backing for a proposed international commission to investigate Iran's grievances against the United States and the deposed Shah.

His statement could open the way for a compromise deal to free the U.S. hostages who have been held in the American embassy in Tehran since Nov. 4.

"An appropriate commission with a carefully defined purpose would be a step toward resolution of this crisis," Mr. Carter told a televised press conference last night.

He said that diplomatic negotiations for the release of the hostages had recently become delicate and intense. "Recently there have been some positive signs," he said in his most optimistic policy assessment since the crisis began 103 days ago.

He refused to discuss specific proposals in detail "at this delicate time" in the negotiations.

However, Ireland's Nobel peace prize winner Sean MacBride said today that both the United States and "the Iranians" have agreed to plan to release all 50 U.S. hostages "before or concurrently with the opening of the U.N.-sponsored inquiry into the Shah's regime.

In a telephone interview from his home in Dublin, Mr. MacBride said he hoped the composition of the inquiry panel, to be a "mixed panel of individuals and lawyers," will be finalised "urgently".

He said that now under tentative consideration for the panel are representatives of Algeria, Mexico, Bangladesh, and other Third World nations.

Mr. MacBride, 76, said he has been in personal contact with both U.S. and Iranian officials.

President Carter's statement last night marked the first time the United States has publicly endorsed the idea of a commission of inquiry first suggested by United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim in November.

Administration officials had previously said they would favour giving Iran a forum to air charges of U.S. complicity in alleged crimes by the former Shah--after the U.S. diplomats being held had been freed.

Mr. Carter said the United States would support U.N. moves leading to the release of the hostages if they were consistent with U.S. goals and international principles.

Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr said in an interview broadcast in France yesterday that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini had approved a new plan for the hostages to be freed.

The United States would have to admit its "crimes" in Iran, pledge not to interfere again and declare that Iran had the right to obtain the return of the deposed Shah and his wealth, he said.

Mr. Carter, in his first press conference in 11 weeks, also sharply criticised Senator Edward Kennedy and reiterated his tough stand against the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Entering the political fray directly for the first time, the president accused Mr. Kennedy, his rival for the democratic presidential nomination, of harming U.S. interests and setting back prospects for peace and release of the hostages.

In recent speeches attacking Carter administration actions in both the hostage crisis and the Soviet Afghan incursion, he said, the senator implied the United States was at fault.

"Senator Kennedy insinuated that because we had given medical treatment to the Shah, somehow the seizure of our own hostages was not the fault of the terrorists who took them but the fault of the United States," the president said.

"Recently he has insinuated, again falsely, that some action or lack of action on my part... had perpetuated the incarceration of the American hostages."

Senator Kennedy, campaigning in Dover, New Hampshire, appeared to relish Mr. Carter's attack. "Well it looks like we finally got their attention," he told reporters.

Senator Kennedy has repeatedly criticised the president for refusing to meet him for a public debate.

Mr. Carter reiterated in his press conference his call for a boycott of the Summer Olympic Games in Moscow unless Soviet troops left Afghanistan by next Wednesday.

He said he saw no possibility that he would change his mind after that date even if Moscow removed its forces from Afghanistan before the May 24 deadline for formal acceptance or rejection of invitations to the games starting on July 19.

The president also spelled out demands beyond withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, calling for a verifiable commitment that Moscow would not again use its forces beyond its borders and for creation of a neutral Afghan government.

If a transitional phase was needed, he suggested that a U.N. or other peacekeeping force could be established in Afghanistan.

But he said his major goal was to make clear to Moscow that the invasion of another country was not acceptable to other nations and "further adventurism on their part would have grave consequences."

Mr. Carter voiced confidence that Yugoslavia's people could defend themselves but he offered U.S. aid if the Yugoslavs sought it.

Gromyko leaves India for Moscow

NEW DELHI, Feb. 14 (R) -- Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko flew back to Moscow today after agreeing with Indian leaders that the Afghan crisis should be swiftly defused. But he did not tell them when Soviet troops would withdraw from Afghanistan. A joint statement published at the end of Mr. Gromyko's visit contained no reference to Afghanistan indicating disagreement over the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and its implications for the region.

The 13-paragraph statement, issued at the end of Mr. Gromyko's 47-hour visit, said only that the two sides had agreed to continue their exchange of opinions on issues of mutual interest. Mr. Gromyko declined to comment on his talks when he left for Moscow after an unscheduled 45-minute meeting with Premier Indira Gandhi.

An Indian spokesman said, however, that "optimum conditions" for a Soviet pull-out did not exist at the moment and the two sides agreed that the Afghan situation should not be viewed in isolation. "India," the spokesman said, "does not agree with the presence of foreign troops in any country."

Informed sources said that Mr. Gromyko indicated no timetable for a withdrawal of the large Soviet forces which moved into Afghanistan in December and supported the overthrow of former President Hafizullah Amin.

The joint statement was issued after more than seven hours of talks centred on the Afghan situation. Mr. Gromyko, who had two meetings with Mrs. Gandhi including one lasting nearly three hours, held three rounds of talks with Indian external affairs minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.

"Our talks went very well and resulted in better understanding," Mr. Rao said.

During his visit, Mr. Gromyko strongly attacked the United States, Pakistan and China. He said the Soviet presence in Afghanistan did not threaten the security and stability of the region.

India has stopped short of condemning the Soviet action in Afghanistan, calling for negotiations rather than confrontation to secure the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

The Indian government is concerned at the proposed rearming of Pakistan which lies between India and Afghanistan, as a result of superpower rivalries.

Jamahiriyah accuses France of military push into Tunisia

ADDIS ABABA, Feb. 14 (R)--The Libyan Jamahiriyah today accused France of military intervention in Tunisia, the Central African Republic and Chad and said it would raise the issue at the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in Sierra Leone in June.

OAU spokesman Peter Onu said the council had asked top officials to prepare a report on the issue so current OAU chairman William Tolbert, president of Liberia, could "use his good sense to find a solution to the conflict."

The head of the Tunisian delegation, minister for social affairs Mohammad Ennaceur, told the council last night that all the raiders had been residents of Tripoli and carried Libyan Passports. They came to Gafsa via various European capitals, he said.

The minister said in his speech that Libya had been urging members of the 80,000-strong Tunisian population in Libya to fight against the Tunis government and said there were eight camps to train guerrillas.

Libyan under secretary for foreign affairs Isa Baba told a press conference: "Africans should not be silent on this, otherwise it will encourage other powers to intervene."

He said France had moved warships, missiles and paratroops to Tunisia.

France supplied transport aircraft and helicopters to Tunisia following an attack on the Tunisian mining town of Gafsa on Jan. 27 in which at least 43 people were killed. It sent warships to patrol off the Tunisian coast but denied sending troops.

The unrest between the two north African neighbours was discussed yesterday at the current meeting of the OAU council of ministers in the Ethiopian capital.

Rhodesian whites go to polls

SALISBURY, Feb. 14 (R)--Rhodesia's dwindling white minority votes today in its final election before Britain's last African colony attains lawful independence under a black majority government.

The country's whites will have only 20 of the 100 seats in the independence parliament and, stripped of blocking powers, may constitute only a token presence after 90 years of supremacy.

Former premier Ian Smith's Rhodesian Front Party is expecting to sweep the polls. The Front has dominated white politics for almost two decades and only six of the 20 seats are being challenged.

Mr. Smith will not be in Rhodesia when the poll is held. He left for a speaking tour of the United States yesterday, effectively boycotting the latest stage of the peace plan which was agreed by Britain and Rhodesia's warring parties in London last December.

The black majority in Rhodesia will have separate elections between February 27 and 29.

The white vote will set the seal on the decline of white political power after the seven-year war against Patriotic Front nationalist guerrillas striving to overthrow the ruling minority.

But Mr. Smith has led his followers in a rear-guard action to maintain some influence.

The former premier has been urging supporters to persuade their black employees to vote for moderate blacks -- not for the Marxist-leaning guerrilla leader Robert Mugabe who is widely believed to be the single most popular candidate among black voters.

Mr. Smith is clearly hoping that, if Mr. Mugabe's support can be eroded, it will be possible for the whites to strike some form of alliance in a new parliament so that the minority's interests will not be ignored, political sources said.

Under the British-drafted independence constitution, the whites may join a coalition of more than two parties but are not permitted to ally with a single black party.

The white election will be held against a backdrop of mounting tension in the six-week-old ceasefire which formally ended the war, but which had failed to stop the fighting.

Some 300 people have died since a ceasefire was declared and a three-cornered wrangle between Mr. Mugabe, his former ally Joshua Nkomo and British governor Lord Soames has added to the strains confronting it.

Mr. Nkomo met Mugabe yesterday for the first time since the two men returned from exile last month. Mr. Mugabe had chosen to contest the black election separately from Mr. Nkomo, leaving their three-year alliance in tatters.

Mr. Nkomo has launched a series of veiled attacks on Mr. Mugabe, accusing his ZANLA (Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army) guerrillas of intimidating voters in wide areas of eastern Rhodesia and preventing other parties from campaigning.

Turkish troops, workers clash at cotton factory

ANKARA, Feb. 14 (R) -- Turkish troops today used armoured personnel carriers to crash through doors and storm a state-run cotton-yarn factory occupied by left-wing workers in the western resort city of Izmir, eyewitnesses said.

Soldiers and workers exchanged gunfire and workers set fire to bales of cotton to try to keep the troops at bay, the witnesses added. Casualty figures were not immediately available.

The workers are protesting against large-scale sackings which they say are directed against leftist workers following the shift from a left- to right-wing government in Ankara.

The witnesses said some 500 workers came out but shooting was still heard inside the factory, where an unknown number of armed workers were still holding out.

The semi-official Anatolian news agency confirmed that tough gendarmerie commandos with assault rifles had burst into the factory and that shooting was continuing. It also confirmed the number of workers the witnesses said surrendered.

Some 10,000 commandos, backed by armored personnel carriers and tanks, were surrounding the factory and military helicopters were circling overhead, the agency reported.

Another news agency, Anka, reported that police had freed female and elderly workers from those who surrendered while the rest were detained in a local sports stadium.

One eyewitness said there was a series of small explosions inside the factory after the commandos burst in.

The popular Aegean Sea tourist resort was described as a ghost town with all municipal workers on strike and most businesses closed down, some in support of the factory workers, others for fear of violence.

Political violence, apparently linked with the Izmir factory occupation, was also reported from eastern Turkey where heavily-armed gendarmes battled leftist workers and students in at least two towns.

Iran floods kill 200

TEHRAN, Feb. 14 (R)--President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr took direct control of rescue operations today as flooding continued to sweep southwestern Iran and up to 200 pepole were reported dead. The president directed operations from an air force base outside Tehran. Teams of helpers sent tents, blankets and emergency food supplies to the beleaguered province of Khuzestan, where most of Iran's oil is produced.

The Kayhan newspaper reported that more than 200 bodies had been pulled from the flood waters so far and 10 villages in Khuzestan were on the verge of destruction. Kayhan quoted city officials in Ahwaz, Iran's oil capital, as saying rising waters might soon cover the town. A major suspension bridge in Ahwaz was reported to have cracked and all traffic over it was banned.

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's office urged Iranians to pay their religious dues directly to the flood emergency fund.

Meanwhile, two members of the ruling revolutionary council, including oil minister Ali Akbar Moinfar, arrived in Ahwaz to supervise rescue efforts in the region. Some 24 villages around the town of Shushtar, where a dam burst under the weight of flood water two days ago, were reported in danger of inundation.

Roads around Shushtar were blocked, hampering rescue efforts. The governor general of Khuzestan told state radio 36 bodies had been recovered in the Shushtar region alone and the casualty figures were likely to be much higher. The only damage to the oil industry officially reported so far was a fractured gas pipe and Mr. Moinfar said oil production had not been affected.

Quake hits India as solar eclipse nears

NEW DELHI, Feb. 14 (R) -- A strong earthquake in India's mountainous north-west Ladakh territory today caused panic among people who fear that a disastrous quake may follow a total eclipse of the sun over the country on Saturday.

Although there were no reports of casualties or damage from the remote thinly-populated Ladakh region, strong tremors caused people to rush from their homes in northern Punjab state.

The Delhi meteorological department said the epicentre of the quake was about 750 kilometres north of the capital and registered a magnitude of 6.5 on the open-ended Richter scale.

Today's quake struck in the north-west, but most concern is being felt in north-east India where seismologists believe a big quake will occur this year and some scientists say it may accompany the eclipse.

Thousands of people are reported to have abandoned their homes in north-eastern Nagaland state and moved to safer areas outside the known seismic zone.

Saturday's total solar eclipse in a belt up to 130 kilometres wide is regarded as highly important by millions of Hindus who will bathe in rivers and sacred lakes throughout the country during the eclipse to ward off evil.

At the holy town of Kurukshetra 145 kilometres north of Delhi -- scene of a mythical battle between the forces of good and evil in the ancient Hindu work "Mahabharata" -- 1.5 million people are expected to take a dip.

Indian officials in the Himalayas bordering China have advised people in high altitude areas to stay indoors and keep their livestock inside at the time of the eclipse for fear of dangerous exposure to ultra-violet and infra-red rays.

Radio and television services have warned people not to look at the eclipse directly for fear of damaging their eyesight. And television is even running a special feature film to help keep viewers glued to sets in their homes and prevent accidents.

China discovers large oilfield

PEKING, Feb. 14 (R)--Chinese prospectors have found a new oilfield in the northwestern province of Qinghai which looks promising in view of a favourable geological formation, the New China News Agency reported today. It said that out of 26 wells sunk so far, 20 had produced oil and natural gas. Daily production in two test wells had exceeded 100 tonnes of crude and 10,000 cubic metres of gas. The agency said the field was located in the southwestern part of the Qaidam basin, which covers 120,000 square kilometres.

Carter to up U.S. aid for African refugees

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (R) -- The Carter administration is reassessing the aid needs of African refugees, including more than 500,000 who have fled the Somali-Ethiopian war over the disputed Ogaden region, a congressional hearing was told yesterday.

Mr. Frank Loy, deputy U.S. coordinator for refugee affairs, said the administration was making plans to respond to an expected appeal from the United Nations high commissioner for refugees for additional aid for Africa.

He said Africa had more refugees than anywhere else in the world, with estimates of up to four million displaced persons.

"Unfortunately we cannot be optimistic about prospects for declining numbers of refugees in 1980 or 1981," he told a House of Representatives foreign affairs subcommittee.

He said it was not expected that Ethiopian refugees would be able to return home from Sudan, Djibouti and Somalia and that the scope of the refugee problem in the Horn of Africa "will probably remain massive for a long time to come."

Mr. Loy said it was expected that in the next few days United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim would make an appeal for $200 million for a programme of emergency and long term aid for refugees in Somalia.

He said the administration was asking Congress for $54 million in African refugee aid for the year starting October 1, but said contingency plans were being made to respond to increased U.N. requests.

Dr. Kevin Cahill, a medical adviser to New York governor Hugh Carey, told the subcommittee that at a conservative estimate there would be more than 840,000 refugees in camps in Somalia by the end of the year.

Dr. Cahill, who recently returned from his 16th visit to Somalia, said it had the world's largest refugee population. More than 90 per cent of the refugees, he said, were women and children whose menfolk had either been killed or were still fighting in the Ogaden.

Growing unrest spurs elections throughout Caribbean islands

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Feb. 14 (R) -- As many as seven general elections could be fought this year in the Caribbean, gripped by economic crisis as well as political and industrial unrest.

Three elections already have been announced: Saint Kitts-Nevis next Monday, Surinam on March 27 and Jamaica sometime before October.

And because of increasing political and development problems, they may also be polling in Guyana, Antigua, Saint Lucia and Dominica.

In Jamaica, with 2.1 million people, opponents of Prime Minister Michael Manley, a self-styled democratic socialist in the past, have charged him with moving towards a one-party communist state and have expressed alarm about his friendship with Cuban President Fidel Castro.

Mr. Manley has now promised to call an election before October although constitutionally entitled to remain in office until the end of 1981.

He has been forced into an early election by Jamaica's economics crisis and pressure from his political opposition.

Mr. Manley has had to face up to stringent demands from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for domestic economic reforms in return for further assistance. He has tried to comply with its requests for reduced public expenditures.

But, at the same time, the former British colony's current economic troubles have alienated a considerable portion of the working class.

Aggressive campaigning by Edward Seaga, the businessman leader of the opposition Jamaica Labour Party (JPL) also has eroded the support Mr. Manley received in the last general election in December 1976, won by his People's National Party (PNP) with an overwhelming majority.

The Jamaican economy declined by 8.3 per cent in 1976, and since then the government has been fighting desperately to reverse the trend.

There were hopes last year of producing a net growth in Jamaica's gross domestic product, but these were wiped out by massive oil price rises and disastrous floods which caused millions of dollars' worth of damage to crops, roads, bridges and buildings.

Meanwhile, the PNP has charged that the JLP instigated violence during a rally of the ruling party in Kingston a week ago.

In the tiny British associated state of Saint Kitts-Nevis, population 48,000, Premier Lee Moore is struggling to keep his labour party in power after the deaths in less than two years of both its charismatic founder-leader, Robert Bradshaw, and his successor, Paul Southwell.

Mr. Morre also faces a threat of secession by the adjoining island of Nevis.

In Surinam, Premier Henk Arron, presiding shakily over a four-party coalition with a one-seat parliamentary majority, faces his stiffest challenge in next month's voting from Hindustani Party (HP) leader Jagernauth Lachmon.

Mr. Arron last year reached cooperation agreements with Guyana ending the previously chilly relations between the two south-American neighbours over 16,000 square kilometres of territory administered by Guyana and claimed by Surinam.

However, Mr. Lachmon, whose party is the strongest single political group in the former Dutch territory, looks unfavourably on close friendship with socialist Guyana.

And in Guyana, Prime Minister Forbes Burnham appears likely to call a general election. Opposition groups headed by Marxist Cheddi Jagan have accused Mr. Burnham's ruling People's National Congress (PNC) of plotting to retain power against the popular will through subtle controls over the electoral process.

There was street violence in Guyana last year, and the bitter animosity between government and opposition groups could create an explosive election campaign.

In Saint Lucia, which gained independence from Britain and held national elections last year, a leadership struggle between the Labour Party Premier Allam Louisy and his left-wing deputy George Odlum could force another election this year.

Antigua's growing economic problems are seen as likely to cause Premier Vere Bird to call a 1980 election, a year earlier than constitutionally required.

In Dominica, devastated by Hurricane David last August, Premier Oliver Seraphine is likely to stage a fresh national poll.

He became premier only last June after the downfall of Prime Minister Patrik John due to labour unrest and allegations of government involvement in an economic deal with South Africa.

The volatile and unstable politics of the tiny island nations of the region were highlighted last year by the first successful armed rebellion against an elected government in an English-speaking Caribbean state. The March 13 takeover of Grenada by the leftist new jewel movement headed by Maurice Bishop, now premier, ousted Sir Eric Gairy's government.

Janata Party in Himachal Pradesh quits

NEW DELHI, Feb. 14 (R) -- Another opposition-run state government today bowed out in favour of Indian Premier Indira Gandhi's Congres (I) Party. The Janata Party administration in northern Himachal Pradesh resigned and the leader of the Congress (I) Legislature Party, Thakur Ral Lall, was called on to form a new government.

Outgoing chief minister Savanta Kumar said he was resigning as his government had been reduced to a minority. Himachal Pradesh follows Karnataka and Haryana states where recent resignations and defections brought Congress (I) rule.

The Indian economy: Indira's first hurdle

By Suman Dubey

NEW DELHI -- Following India's general election, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's new government is discovering the full implications of her ambitious campaign promise to provide effective government and tackle mounting economic problems.

In returning her to power with a sweeping parliamentary majority, Indian voters rejected the drift and indecision of the previous Janata and Lok Dal party coalition governments.

Instead they voted in a government they expect to get to grips quickly with problems neglected during months of political infighting and manoeuvres.

But if Mrs. Gandhi's first task is to live up to her election platform, economists believe she is in for a hard time.

The Indian economy is expected to end the current financial year in March with a drop of around five per cent in gross domestic production. Though industrial output will rise around two or three per cent, a nine to 10 per cent fall in agricultural production will pull down national output.

Inflation is running at more than 20 per cent and prices are likely to rise further before the year is out. Boosted by a rapidly rising crude oil import bill, India's trade deficit could be close to a record $2,000 million.

Industrial regions such as Bombay and Calcutta face serious power cuts every day, and production is also crippled by labour unrest which looks like being worse than in any previous year.

Some of these problems can be contained by better government management of key sectors such as power, and more efficient distribution of such consumer goods as sugar or industrial materials like aluminium which are in short supply, the economists said.

Planning Commission Deputy Chairman D.T. Lakadawala recently described the industrial sluggishness as "largely man made" and blamed the public sector for most of it. Economists working in a chamber of commerce in Calcutta estimated that West Bengal State loses production worth more than $1 million a day because of bad labour relations and poor maintenance.

The economy has been cushioned by foodgrain and foreign exchange reserves built up over the past four or five years. But it cannot readily absorb another bad harvest or another year of industrial stagnation, the economists said.

Mrs. Gandhi's government announced recently that its economic policies would not be outlined before its budget in a few weeks time. But it indicated that priorities would be to increase production and step up welfare programmes to help the half of India's people who live below the poverty line.

Mrs. Gandhi's initial emphasis is on keeping with her approach when she headed the government in the early 1970s. She has often said her policies at the time were responsible for India's relative economic stability between 1975 and 1978, and she would revive them if she had a chance.

Early in her career Mrs. Gandhi established herself politically, shaking off the Congress Party's old guard by veering sharply leftwards in economic policy. She split the party by nationalising India's 14 largest banks, followed by insurance, coal and the wheat trade.

Mrs. Gandhi's government also came down hard on striking workers, smugglers and black marketeers.

Some of these policies got out of hand during her emergency rule from June 1975 to March 1977, when Mrs. Gandhi suspended fundamental rights and jailed her opponents without trial. Several million men were forcibly sterilised, strikes were banned and slum dwellers were removed against their will to distant settlements.

The harsher aspects of her emergency lost Mrs. Gandhi the elections in March 1977, but not before the economy raised industrial and agricultural production, built up its foodgrain and foreign exchange reserves, checked inflation and brought the trade deficit under control.

Some of the emergency policies, shorn of their harsher aspects, are expected to be revived now. In interviews during her 33 months out of office, Mrs. Gandhi indicated she would be pragmatic. Though her government first legislated controls on multinationals and large Indian companies, she has not ruled out investment by them. Mrs. Gandhi also said she was in favour of reducing taxes.

Indian president Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, speaking at the ceremonial opening of the new Parliament recently, said Mrs. Gandhi's government planned to revive a 20-point welfare programme which was first announced during the emergency. It sought to help the poor directly throughou public investment and officia measures.

The programme sought to limi land ownership, redistribute lanc free bonded labourers and liquid ate their personal debts to mone lenders, raise agricultural wage and develop handloom cloth pro duction.

Mrs. Gandhi's election can paign aroused expectation change. Businessmen, who su ported most of her earlier policie expect to find it easier to opera and grow.

Voters, who turned a blind e to the excesses of her emergen expect the new government bring down prices.

Most observers expect that t new government will have to sooner rather than later if it is retain its support.

REUTER